STAR comics
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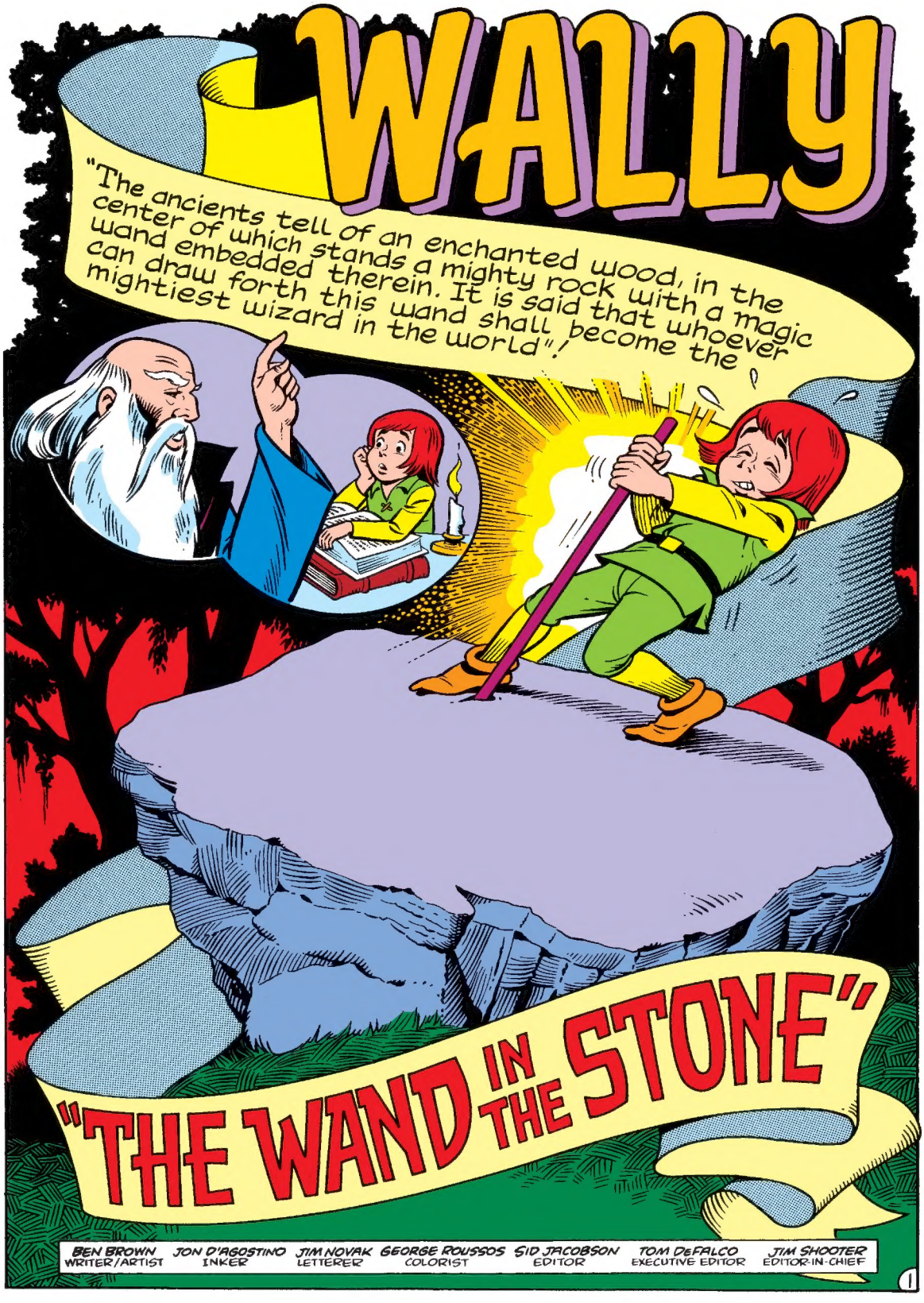
MARVEL®
WALLY
THE WIZARD™
LOOK! THE YOUNG ONE IS DOING IT!
"...whoever can draw the wand from the stone shall become the mightiest wizard in the world!"
WARREN KREMER
ERNIE COLÓN
THIS ISSUE:
"THE WAND IN THE STONE"



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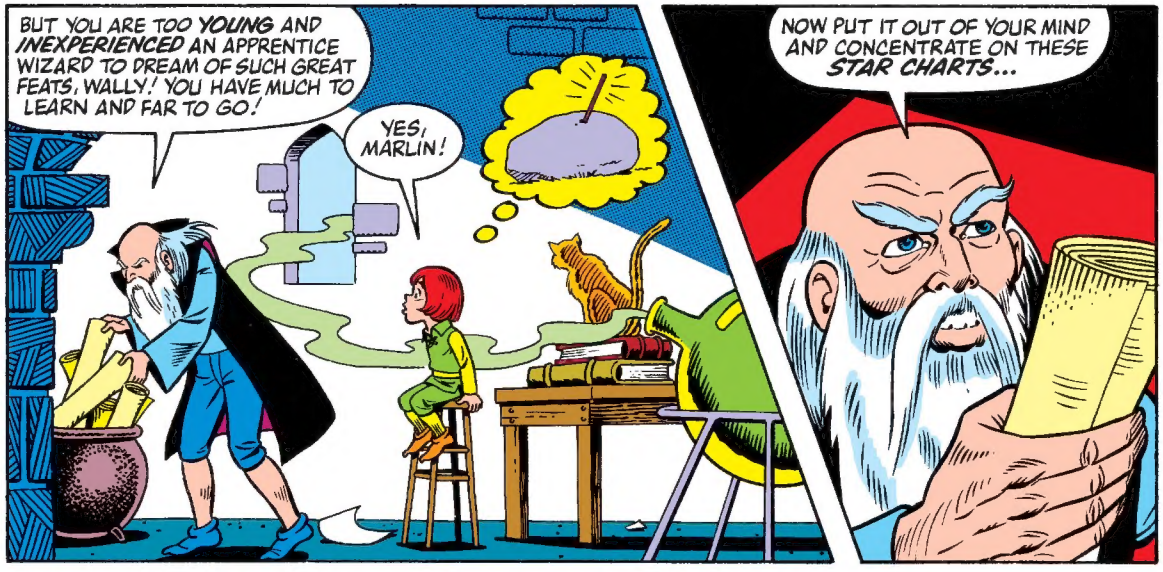
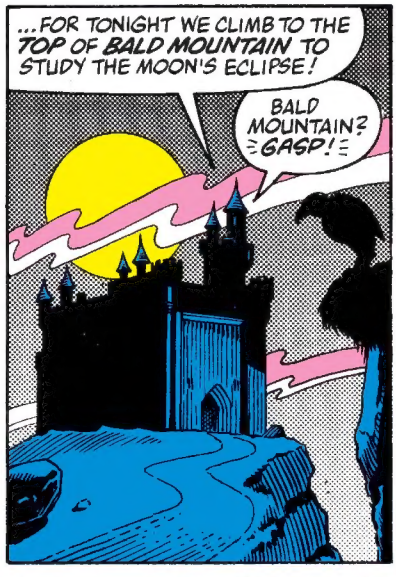
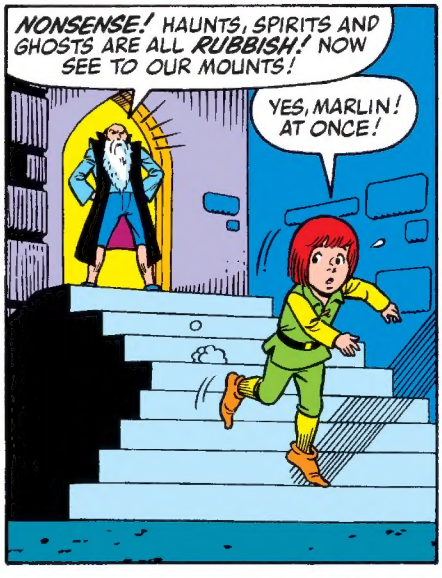
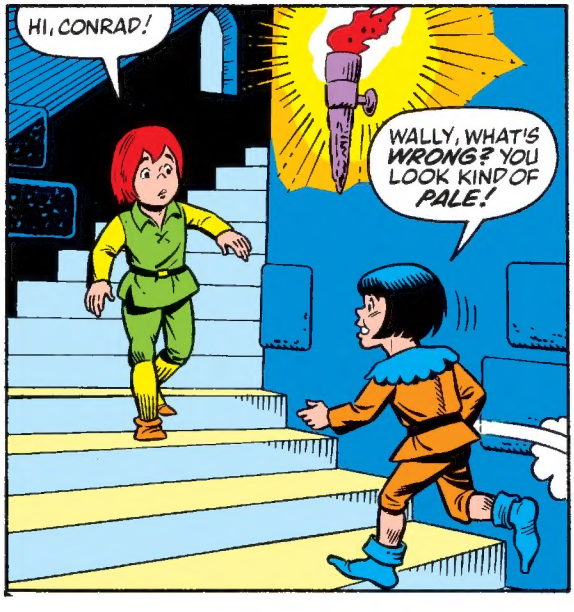
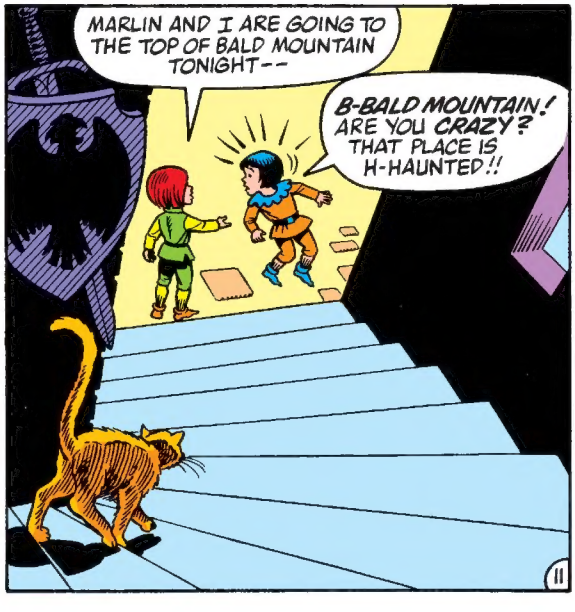

BUT YOU ARE TOO YOUNG AND INEXPERIENCED AN APPRENTICE WIZARD TO DREAM OF SUCH GREAT FEATS, WALLY! YOU HAVE MUCH TO LEARN AND FAR TO GO!
YES, MARLIN!
NOW PUT IT OUT OF YOUR MIND AND CONCENTRATE ON THESE STAR CHARTS...

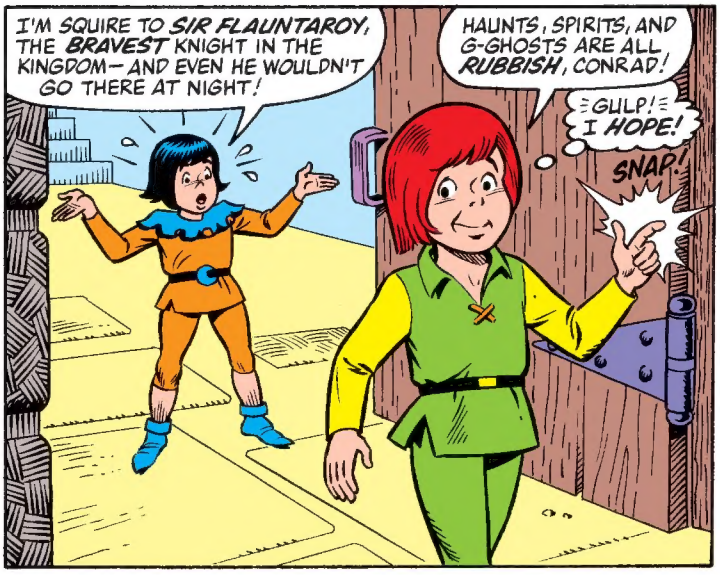

...FOR TONIGHT WE CLIMB TO THE TOP OF BALD MOUNTAIN TO STUDY THE MOON'S ECLIPSE!
BALD MOUNTAIN? GASP!

B-BUT, SIRE— BALD MOUNTAIN IS KNOWN TO BE H-HAUNTED!

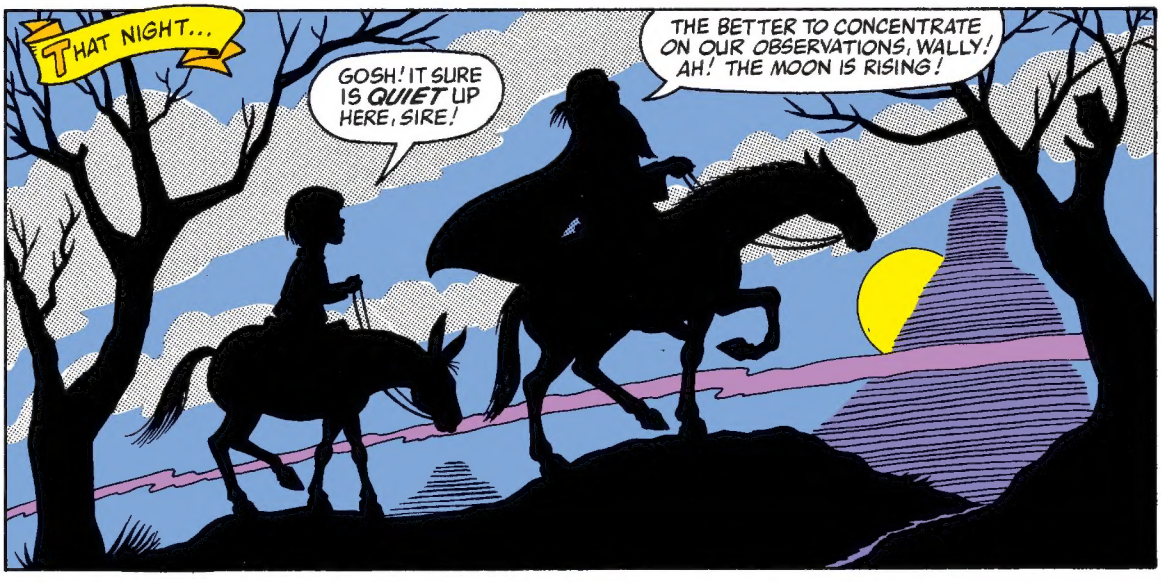

NONSENSE! HAUNTS, SPIRITS AND GHOSTS ARE ALL RUBBISH! NOW SEE TO OUR MOUNTS!
YES, MARLIN! AT ONCE!


HI, CONRAD!
WALLY, WHAT'S WRONG? YOU LOOK KIND OF PALE!

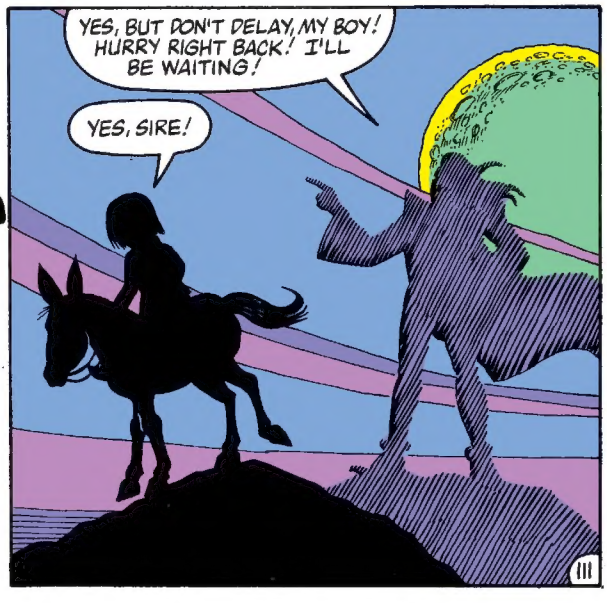

MARLIN AND I ARE GOING TO THE TOP OF BALD MOUNTAIN TONIGHT--
B-BALD MOUNTAIN! ARE YOU CRAZY? THAT PLACE IS H-HAUNTED!!

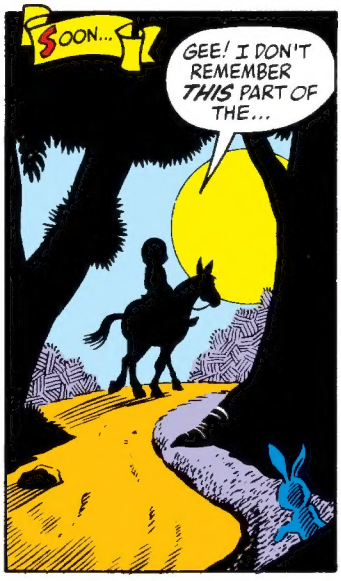

I'M SQUIRE TO SIR FLAUNTAROY, THE BRAVEST KNIGHT IN THE KINGDOM—AND EVEN HE WOULDN'T GO THERE AT NIGHT!
HAUNTS, SPIRITS, AND G-GHOSTS ARE ALL RUBBISH, CONRAD!
GULP! I HOPE!
SNAP!

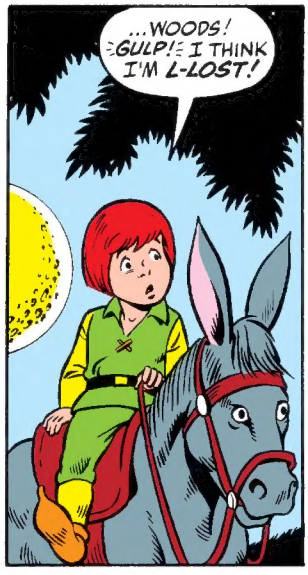
BUT IF I HAD THE WAND IN THE STONE, I WOULDN'T BE SCARED OF ANYTHING!


THAT NIGHT...
GOSH! IT SURE IS QUIET UP HERE, SIRE!
THE BETTER TO CONCENTRATE ON OUR OBSERVATIONS, WALLY! AH! THE MOON IS RISING!

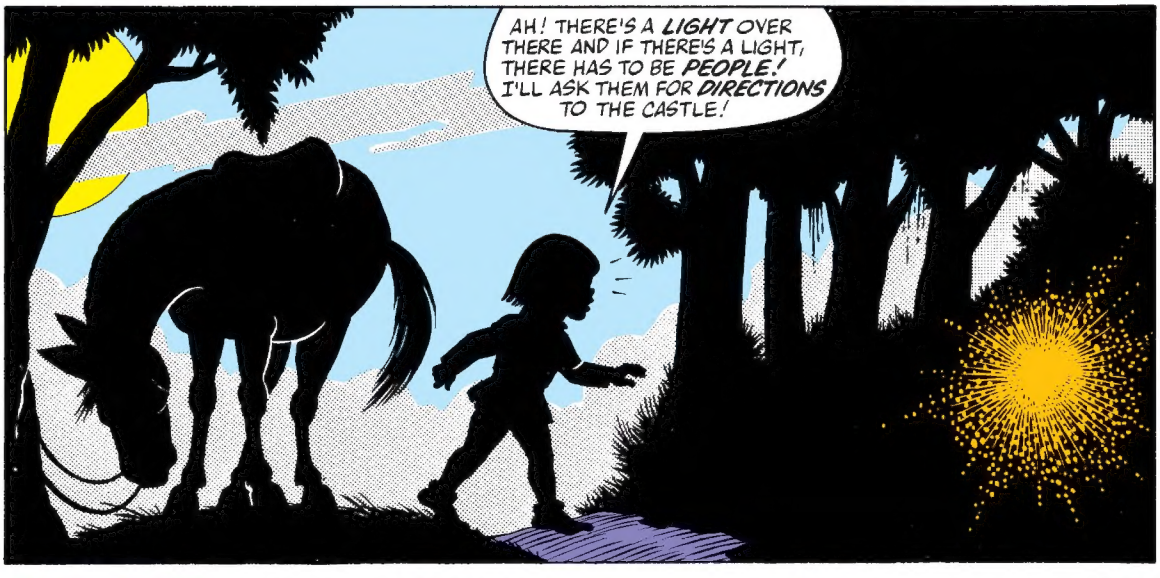
DRAT! I FORGOT MY SPECTACLES! I CAN'T READ MY CHARTS WITHOUT THEM!
SHALL I GO BACK AND FETCH THEM, MARLIN?

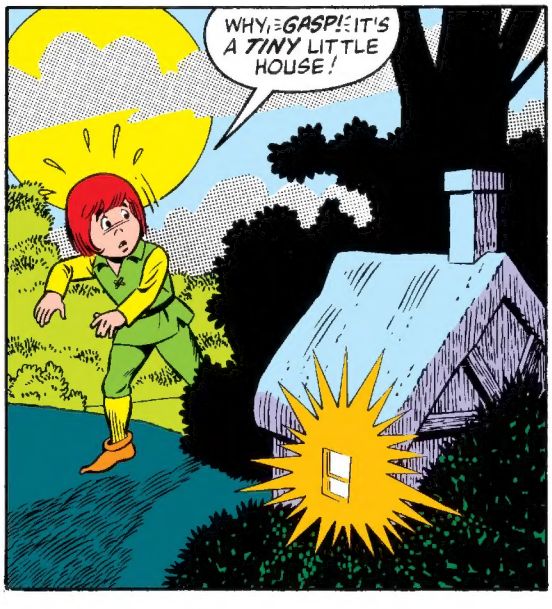

YES, BUT DON'T DELAY, MY BOY! HURRY RIGHT BACK! I'LL BE WAITING!
YES, SIRE!

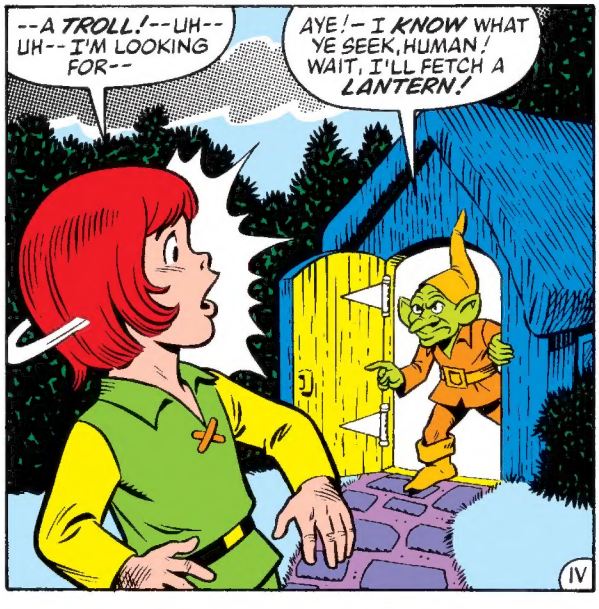

SOON...
GEE! I DON'T REMEMBER THIS PART OF THE...

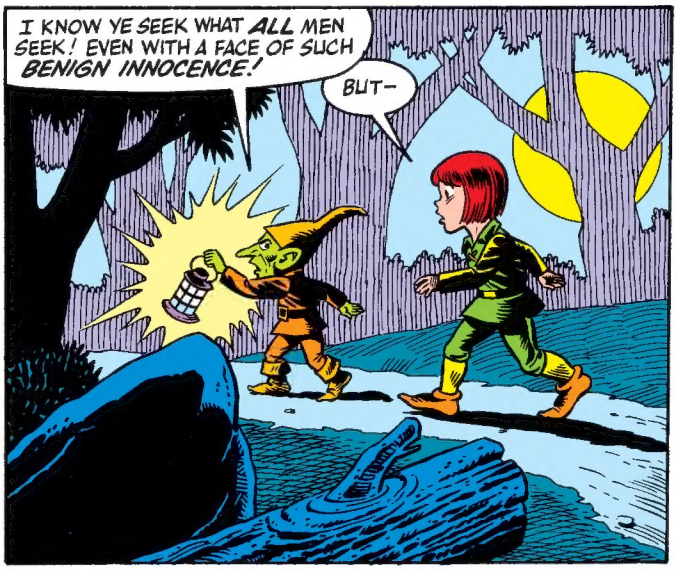

...WOODS! GULP! I THINK I'M L-LOST!

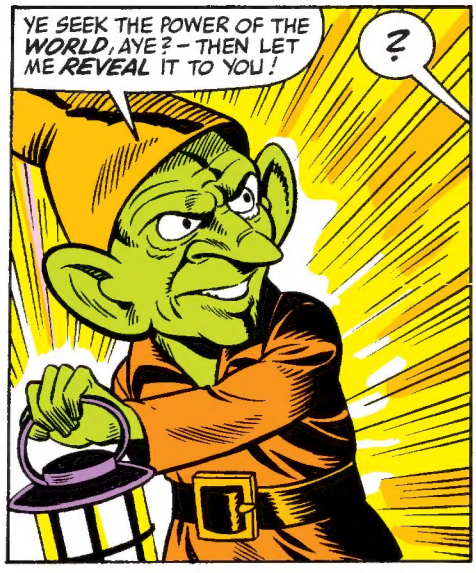
WHOOOOOOO!
YIPES!

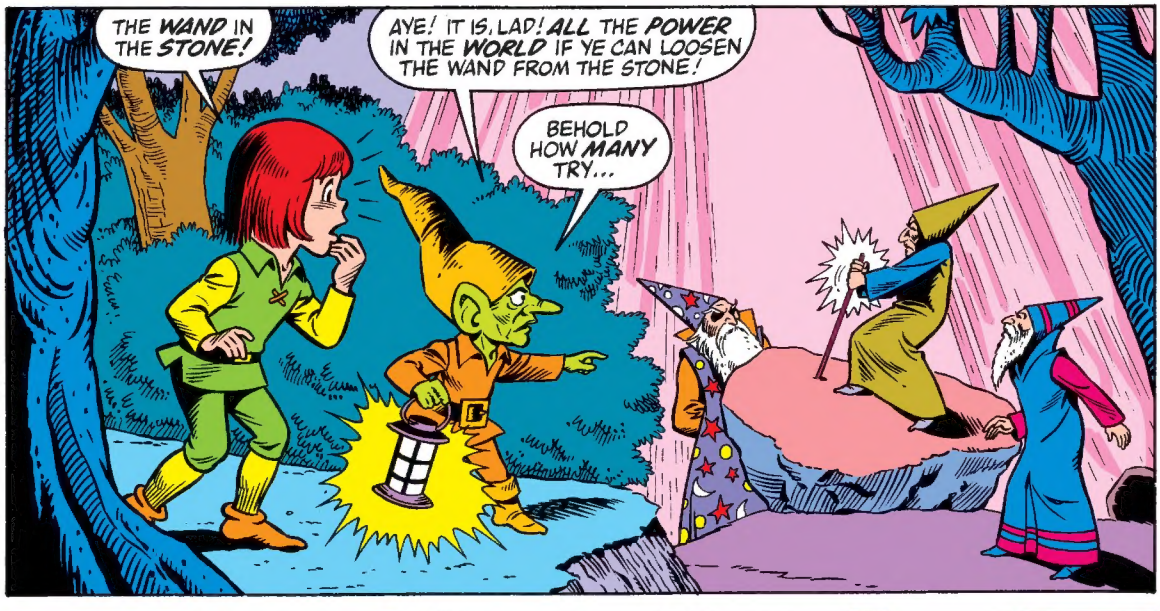

AH! THERE'S A LIGHT OVER THERE AND IF THERE'S A LIGHT, THERE HAS TO BE PEOPLE! I'LL ASK THEM FOR DIRECTIONS TO THE CASTLE!


WHY, GASP! IT'S A TINY LITTLE HOUSE!

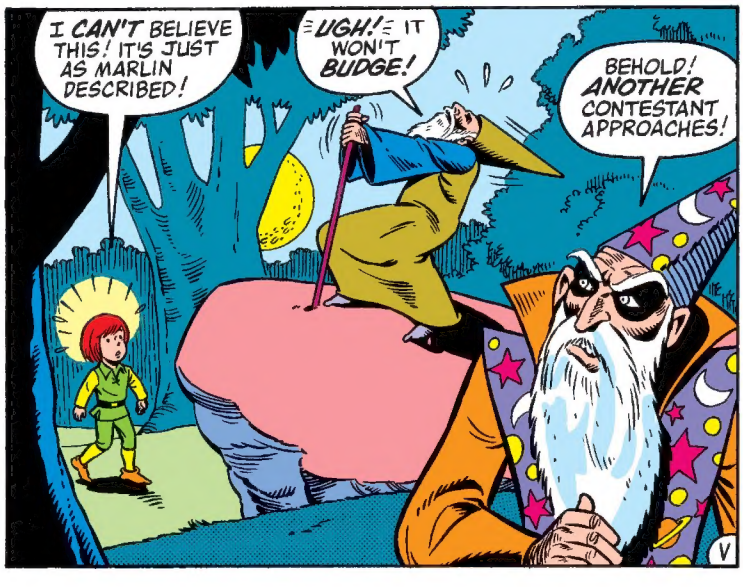

--A TROLL!--UH--UH--I'M LOOKING FOR--
AYE!-- I KNOW WHAT YE SEEK, HUMAN! WAIT, I'LL FETCH A LANTERN!

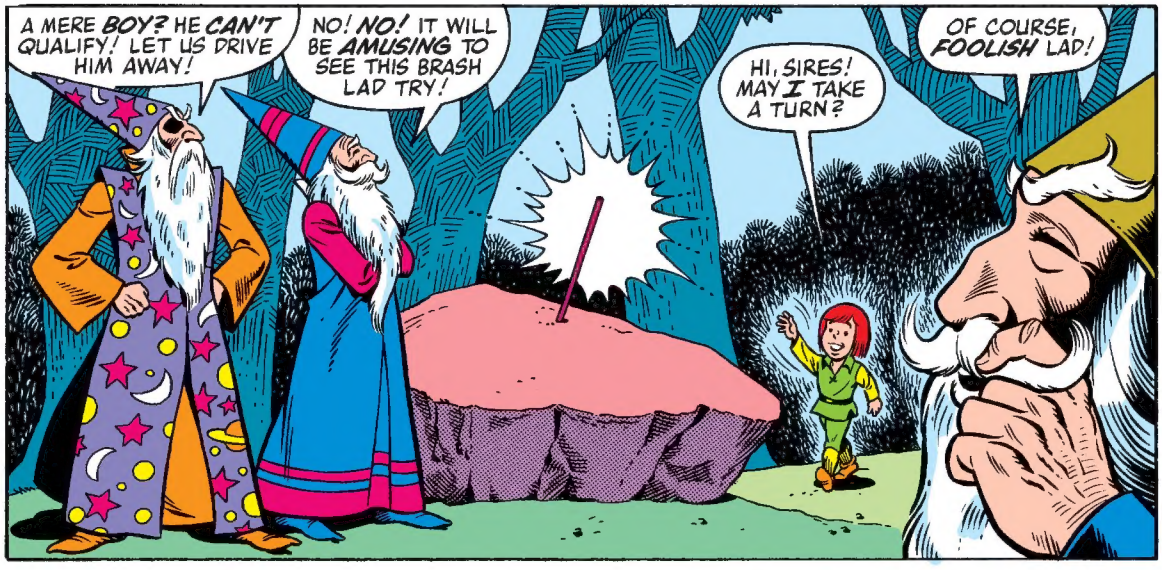

I KNOW YE SEEK WHAT ALL MEN SEEK! EVEN WITH A FACE OF SUCH BENIGN INNOCENCE!
BUT–

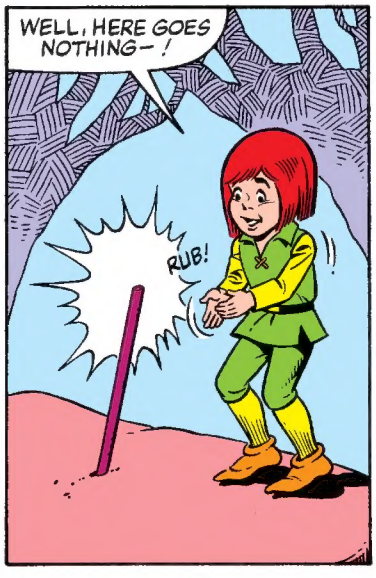

YE SEEK THE POWER OF THE WORLD, AYE? – THEN LET ME REVEAL IT TO YOU!
?

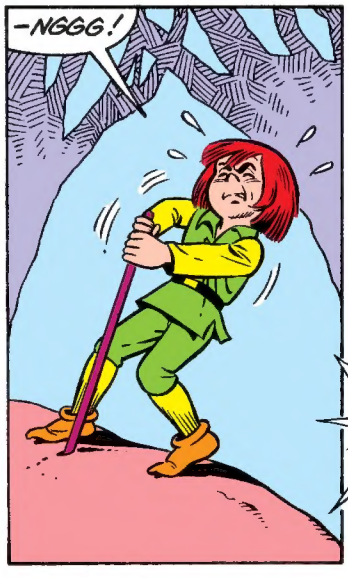

THE WAND IN THE STONE!
AYE! IT IS, LAD! ALL THE POWER IN THE WORLD IF YE CAN LOOSEN THE WAND FROM THE STONE!
BEHOLD HOW MANY TRY...

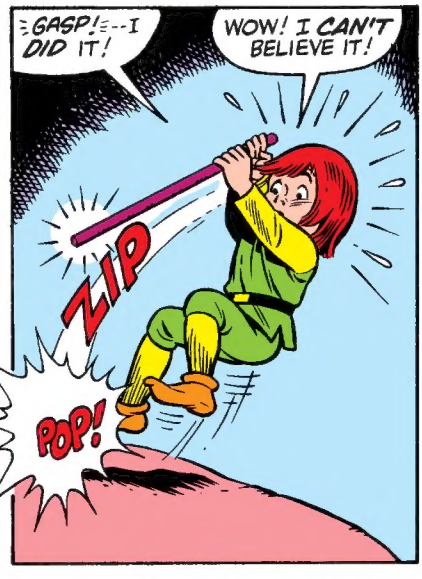
...AND FAIL!
G-GULP! HE'S GONE!
FSSST!

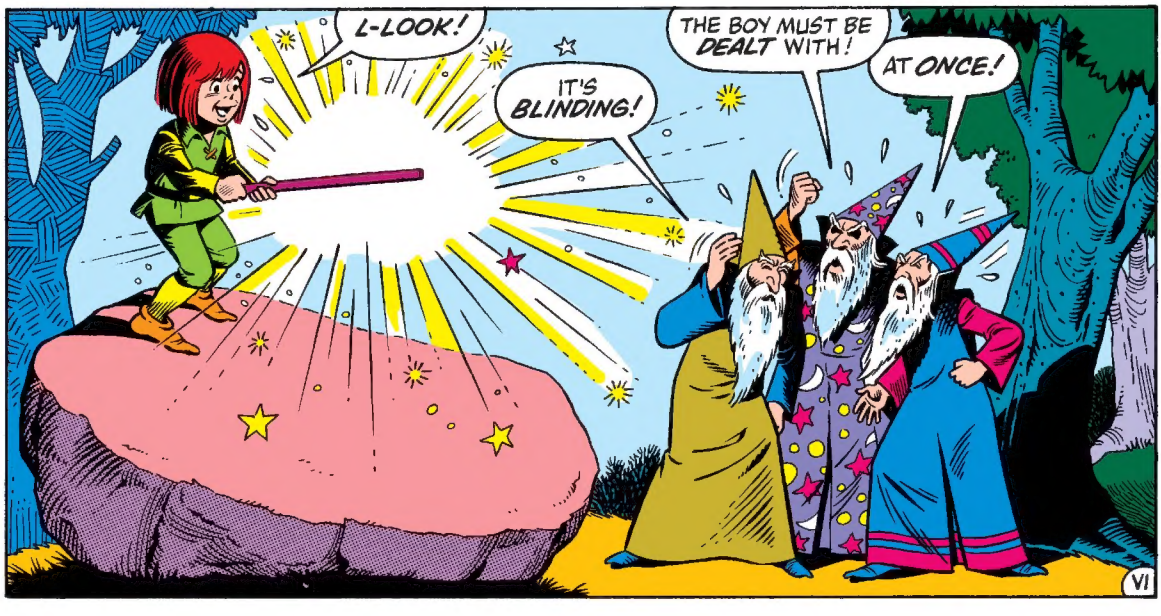

I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS! IT'S JUST AS MARLIN DESCRIBED!
UGH! IT WON'T BUDGE!
BEHOLD! ANOTHER CONTESTANT APPROACHES!

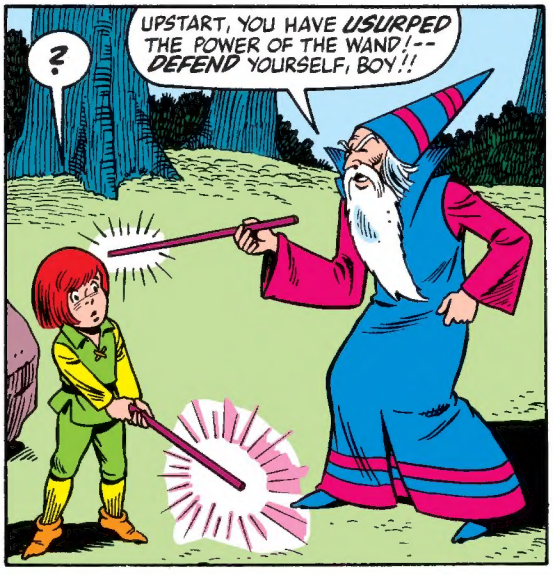

A MERE BOY? HE CAN'T QUALIFY! LET US DRIVE HIM AWAY!
NO! NO! IT WILL BE AMUSING TO SEE THIS BRASH LAD TRY!
HI, SIRES! MAY I TAKE A TURN?
OF COURSE, FOOLISH LAD!


WELL, HERE GOES NOTHING—!
RUB!


—NGGG!

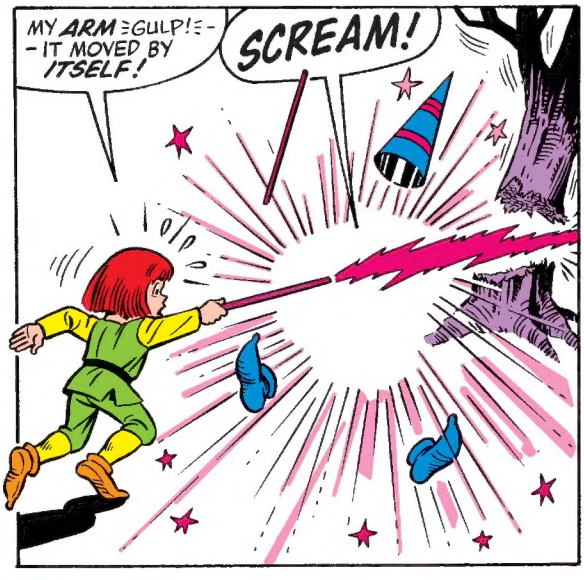

GASP!—I DID IT!
WOW! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
ZIP
POP!

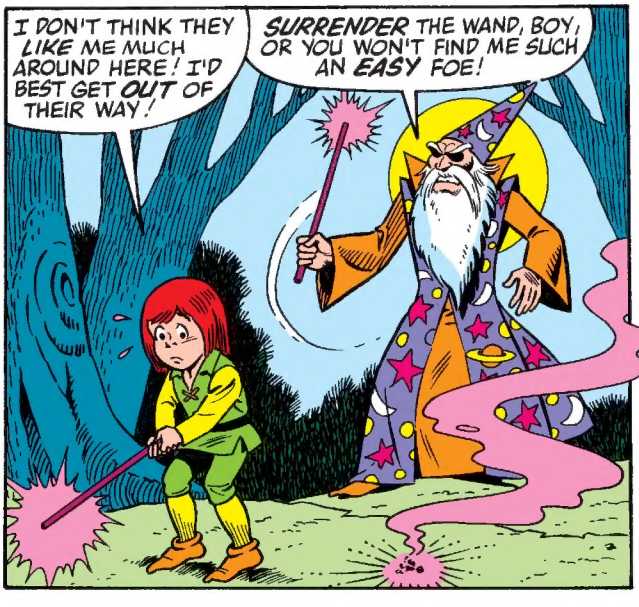

L-LOOK!
IT'S BLINDING!
THE BOY MUST BE DEALT WITH!
AT ONCE!


?
UPSTART, YOU HAVE USURPED THE POWER OF THE WAND!-- DEFEND YOURSELF, BOY!!

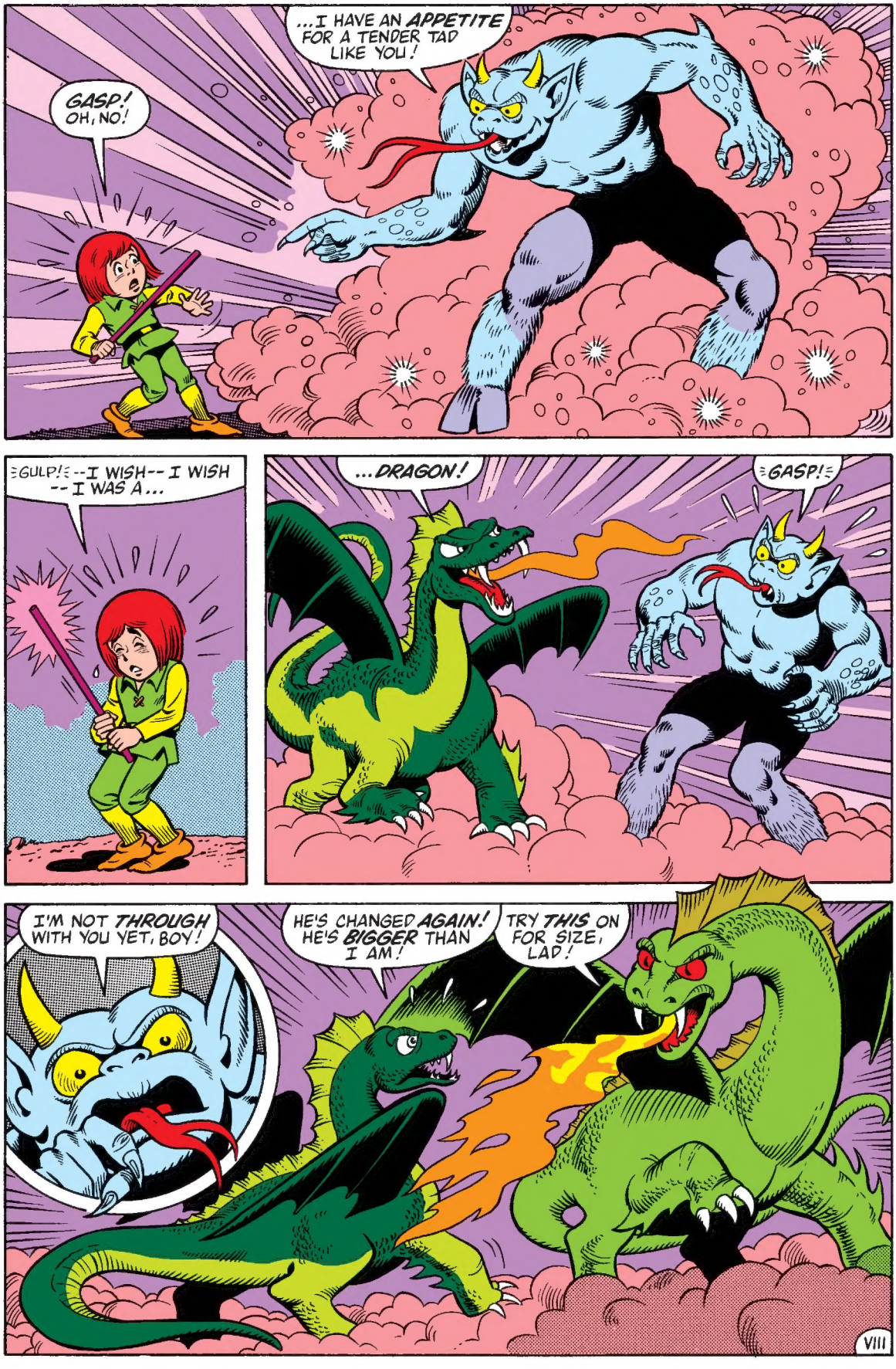
H-HEY! W-WATCH OUT! PLEASE!
I INTEND TO ELIMINATE YOU!
ZIP!
CRACK!

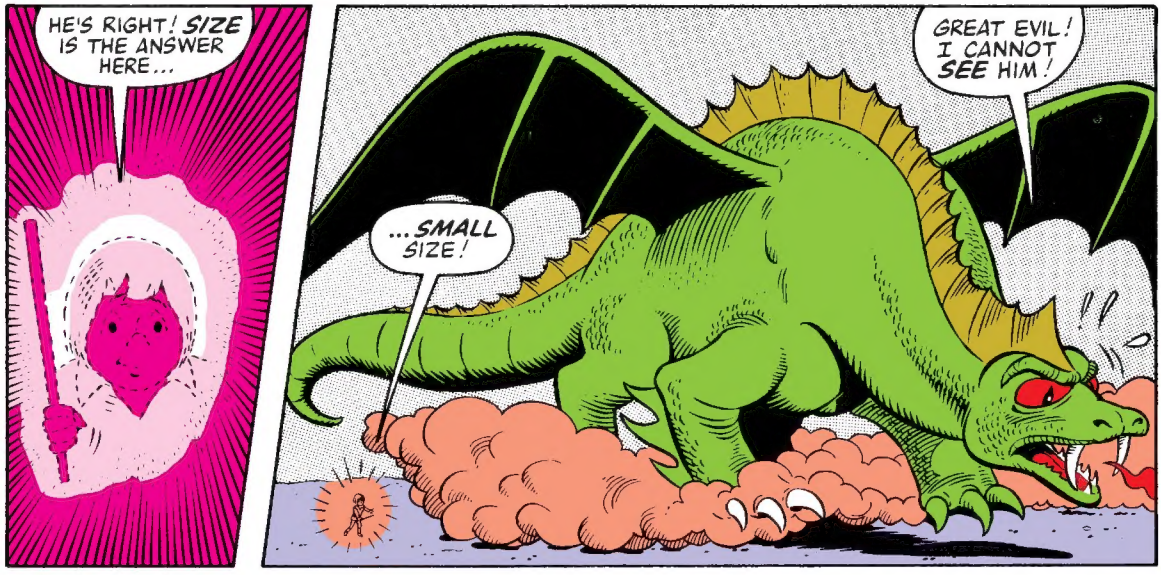
BUT-BUT ≡GASP!≡-- W-WHY?
THE POWER WILL BE BETTER SERVED IN MY HANDS, CALLOW YOUTH!
ZAP!


MY ARM ≡GULP!≡-- IT MOVED BY ITSELF!
SCREAM!

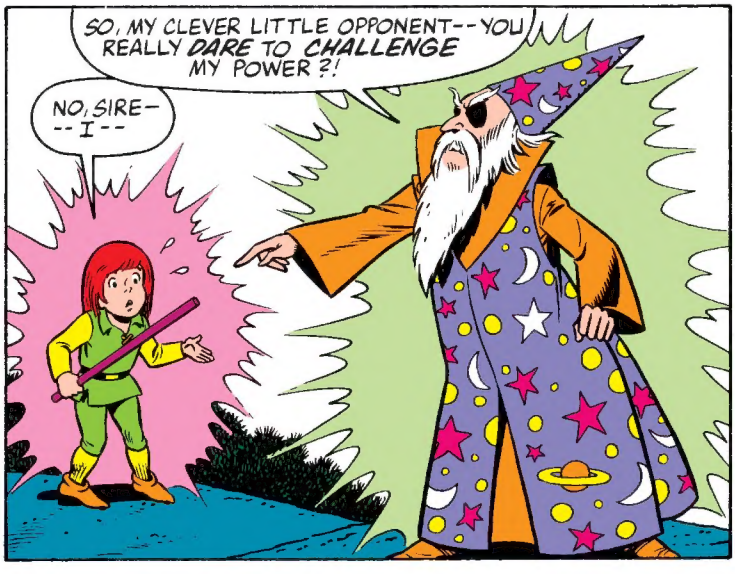

I DON'T THINK THEY LIKE ME MUCH AROUND HERE! I'D BEST GET OUT OF THEIR WAY!
SURRENDER THE WAND, BOY, OR YOU WON'T FIND ME SUCH AN EASY FOE!

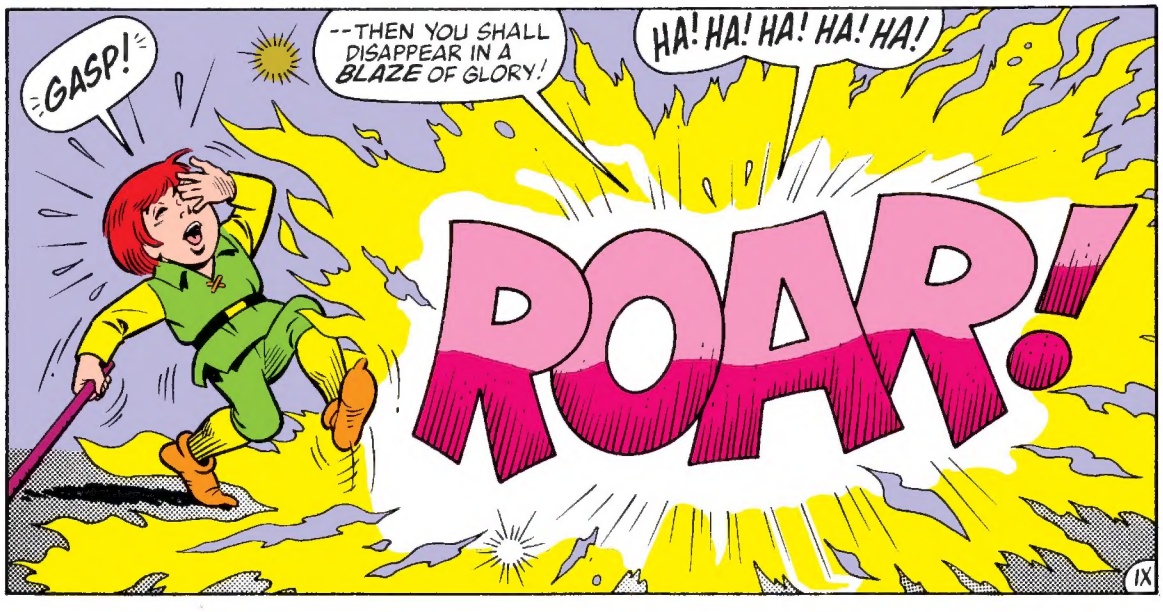
FOR I AM THE WIZARD OF DARKNESS--
--WITH POWER TO CHANGE MY APPEARANCE AT WILL! --WATCH OUT--

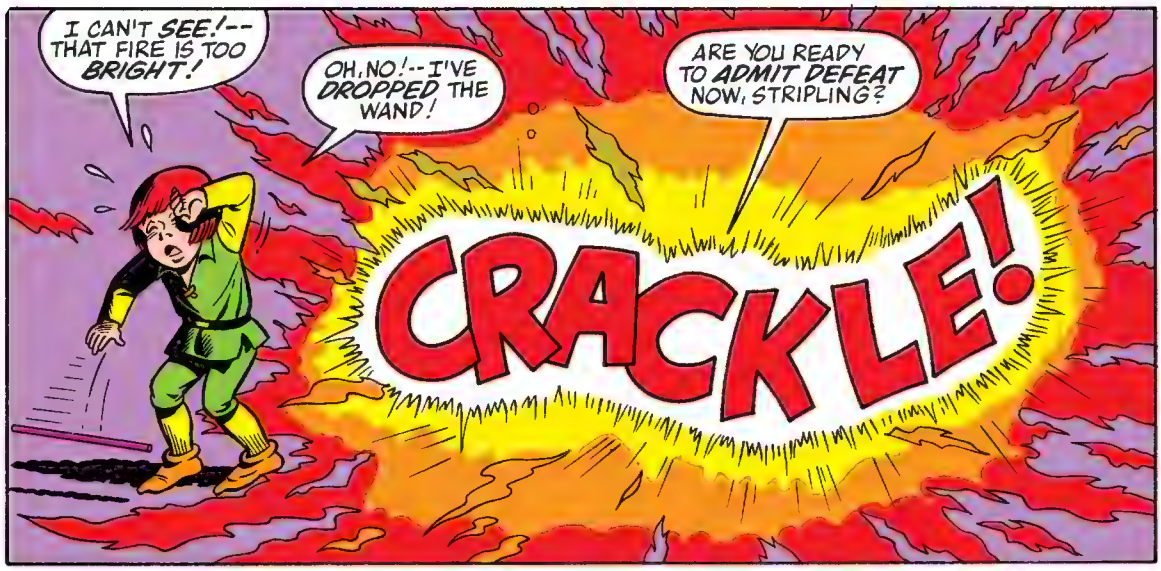

GASP! OH, NO!
...I HAVE AN APPETITE FOR A TENDER TAD LIKE YOU!
GULP! --I WISH-- I WISH --I WAS A...
...DRAGON!
GASP!
I'M NOT THROUGH WITH YOU YET, BOY!
HE'S CHANGED AGAIN! HE'S BIGGER THAN I AM!
TRY THIS ON FOR SIZE, LAD!
VIII


HE'S RIGHT! SIZE IS THE ANSWER HERE...
...SMALL SIZE!
GREAT EVIL! I CANNOT SEE HIM!

GOLLY!— WHAT IS HE GOING TO THINK OF NEXT?!


SO, MY CLEVER LITTLE OPPONENT--YOU REALLY DARE TO CHALLENGE MY POWER?!
NO, SIRE-- I --

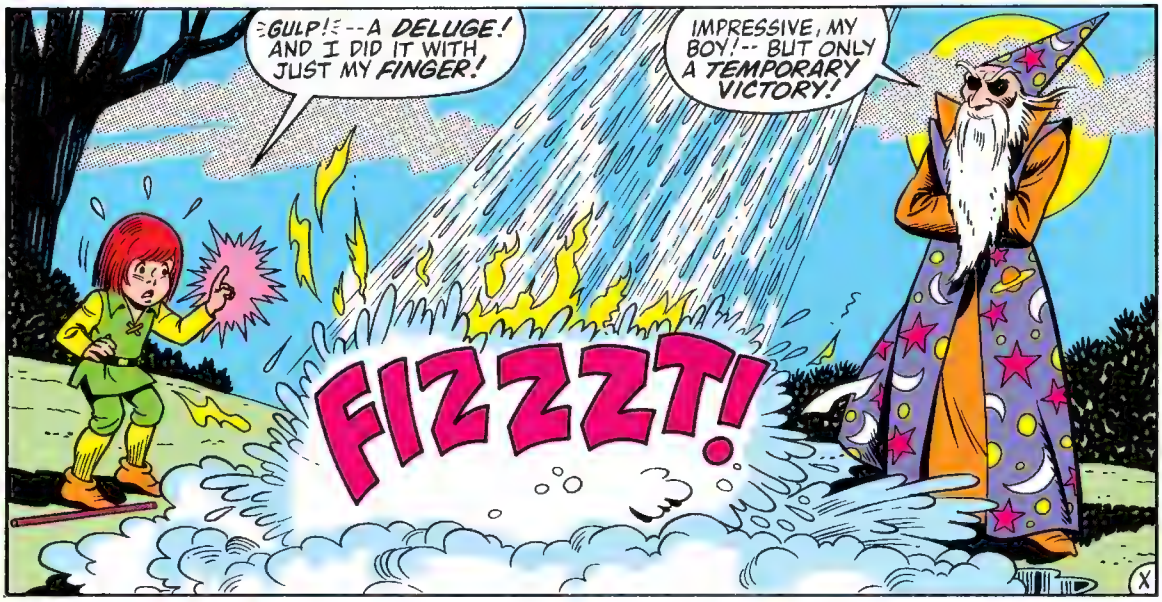

GASP!
--THEN YOU SHALL DISAPPEAR IN A BLAZE OF GLORY!
HA! HA! HA! HA! HA!
ROAR!

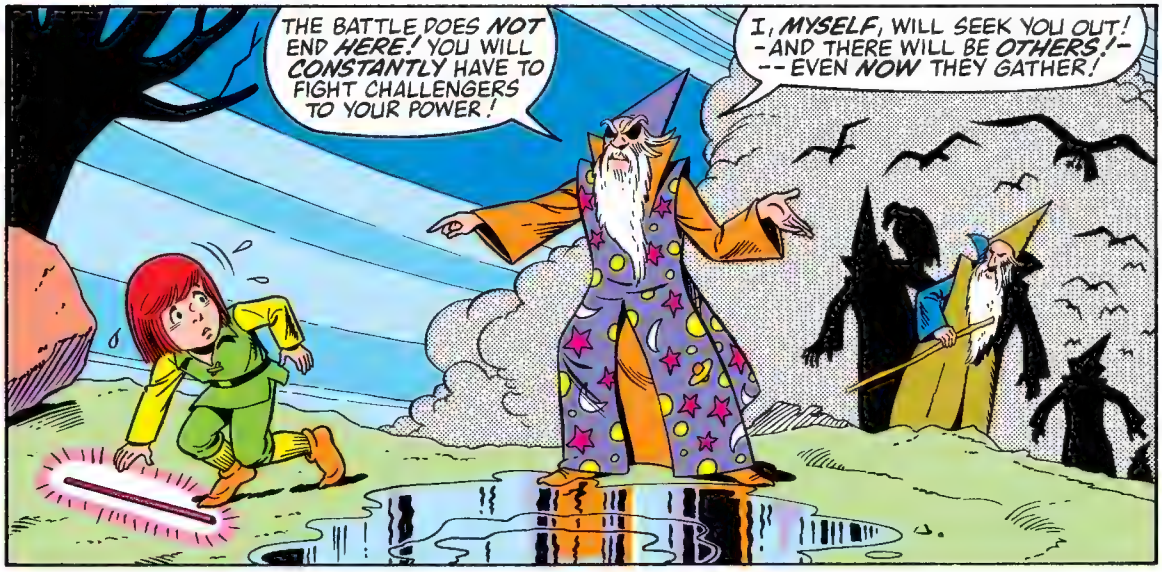

I CAN'T SEE!-- THAT FIRE IS TOO BRIGHT!
OH, NO!-- I'VE DROPPED THE WAND!
ARE YOU READY TO ADMIT DEFEAT NOW, STRIPLING?
CRACKLE!

I CAN'T SEE TO PICK UP THE WAND...
...BUT I FEEL THE POWER IN MY FINGER!

I'LL FIGHT FIRE WITH...

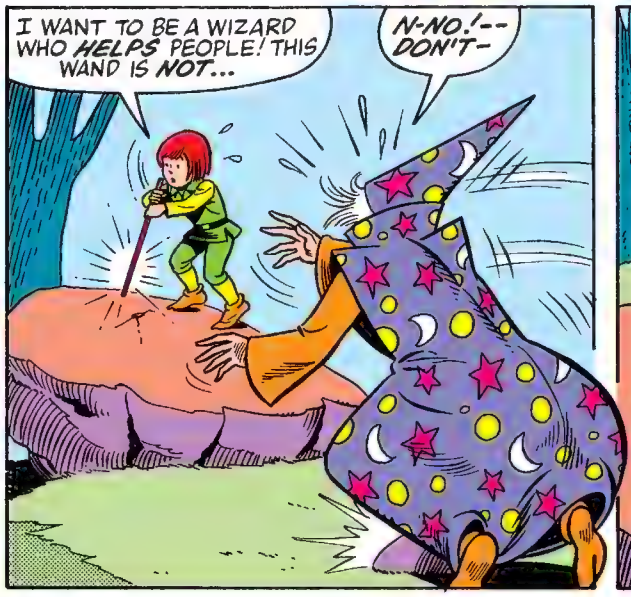
RUMBLE!
...WATER!

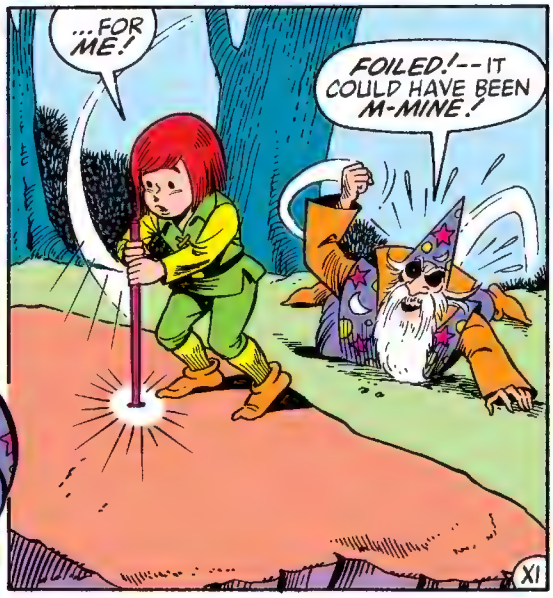

GULP!-- A DELUGE! AND I DID IT WITH, JUST MY FINGER!
IMPRESSIVE, MY BOY!-- BUT ONLY A TEMPORARY VICTORY!
FIZZZT!


THE BATTLE DOES NOT END HERE! YOU WILL CONSTANTLY HAVE TO FIGHT CHALLENGERS TO YOUR POWER!
I, MYSELF, WILL SEEK YOU OUT! -AND THERE WILL BE OTHERS!- --EVEN NOW THEY GATHER!

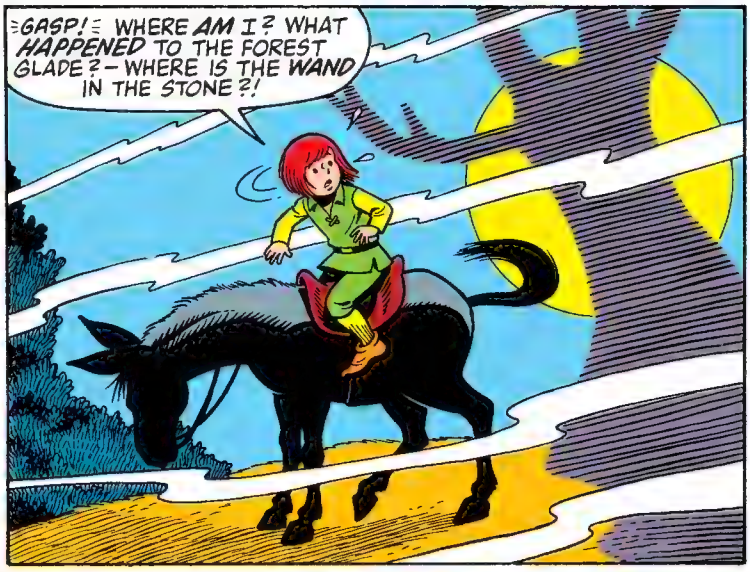
AND YOU CAN NOT...YOU WILL NOT BE ASSURED OF CONTINUOUS VICTORY! ONE DAY, LAD, YOU WILL BE OVERCOME AND DESTROYED!
YOU MEAN MORE AND MORE FIGHTING?

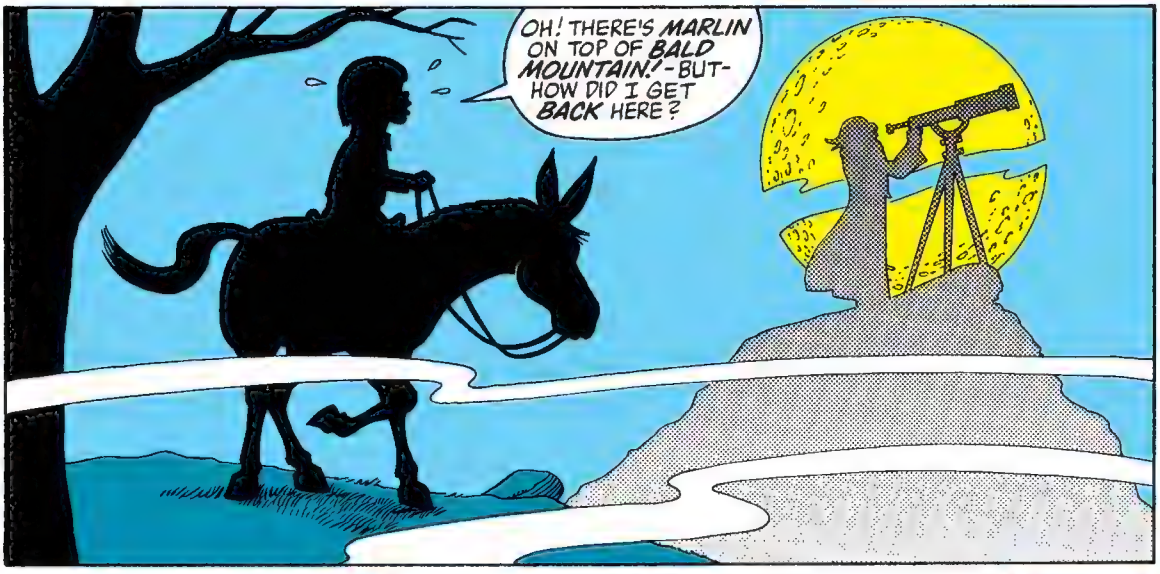
THEN WHAT GOOD IS THIS POWER IF I HAVE TO FIGHT CHALLENGERS ALL THE TIME? WITH ALL MY EFFORT DEVOTED TO BATTLE, I'LL HAVE NO TIME LEFT TO DO GOOD!


I WANT TO BE A WIZARD WHO HELPS PEOPLE! THIS WAND IS NOT...
N-NO!-- DON'T-

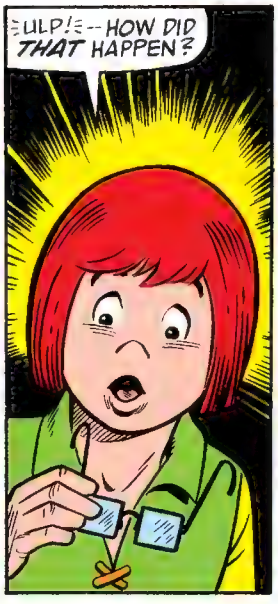

...FOR ME!
FOILED!--IT COULD HAVE BEEN M-MINE!

WHA-?!
POP!

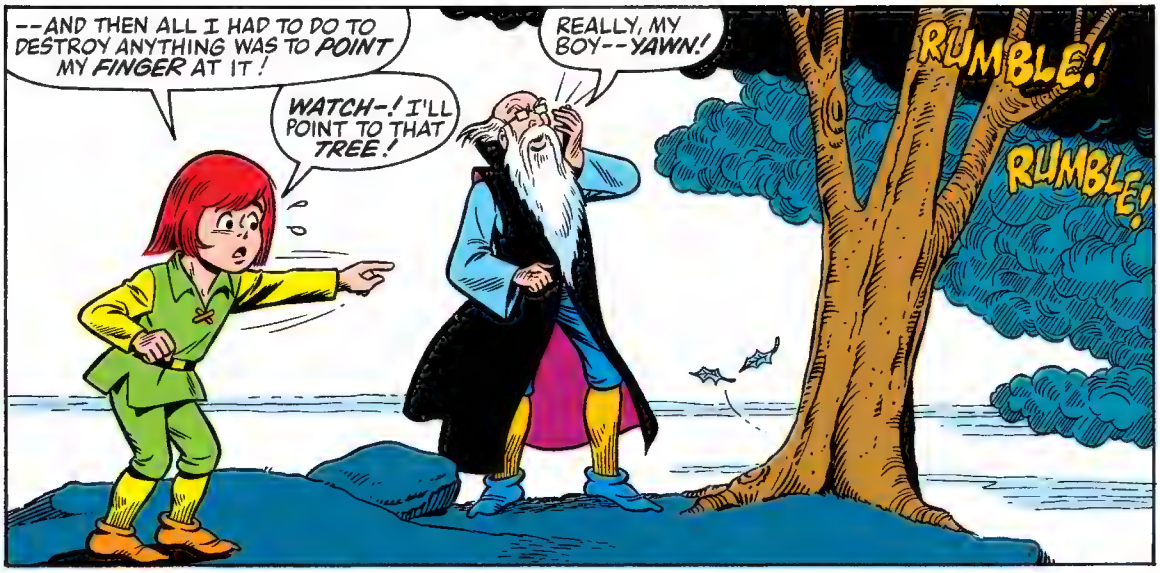

GASP! WHERE AM I? WHAT HAPPENED TO THE FOREST GLADE? - WHERE IS THE WAND IN THE STONE?!


OH! THERE'S MARLIN ON TOP OF BALD MOUNTAIN! - BUT- HOW DID I GET BACK HERE?

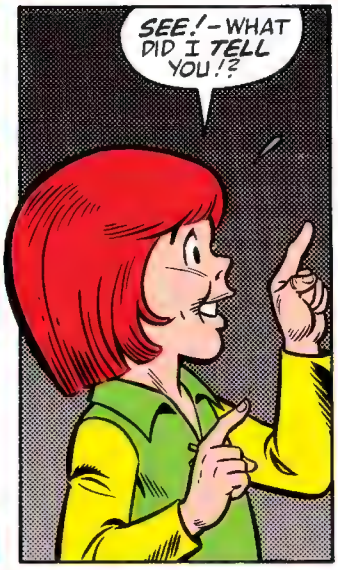
MARLIN, THE MOST AMAZING THING JUST HAPPENED TO ME! -UH, I'M SORRY I FORGOT TO GET YOUR SPECTACLES!
WHAT IS THAT IN YOUR HAND?


ULP! -- HOW DID THAT HAPPEN?

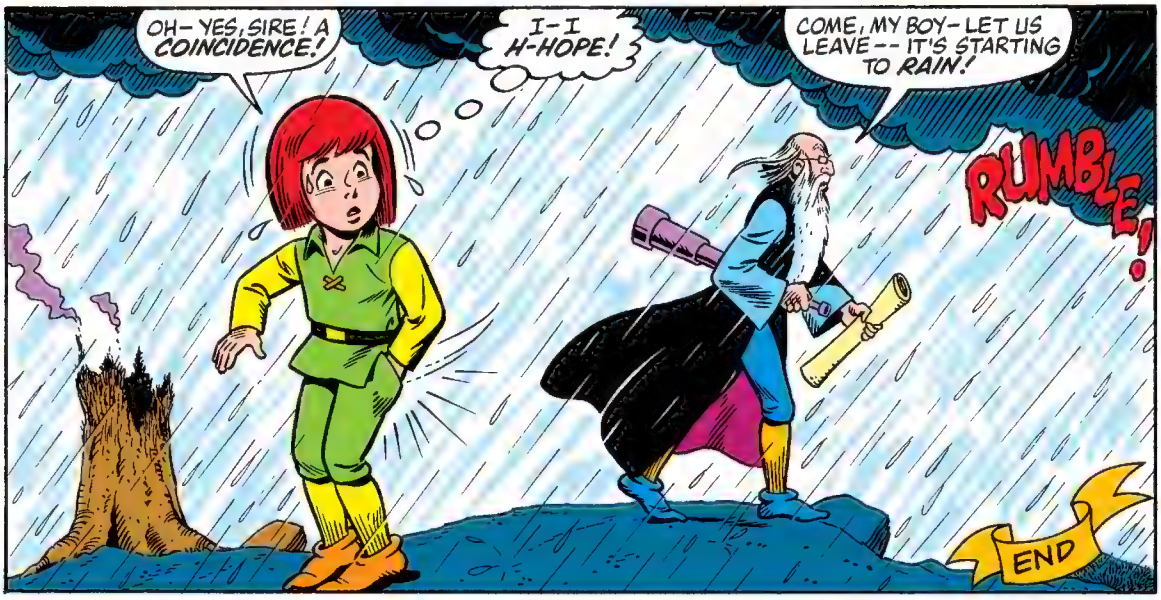
LISTEN, SIRE - I JUST HAD THE WAND WITH THE POWER OF THE WORLD-- IN MY HAND!
INDEED!

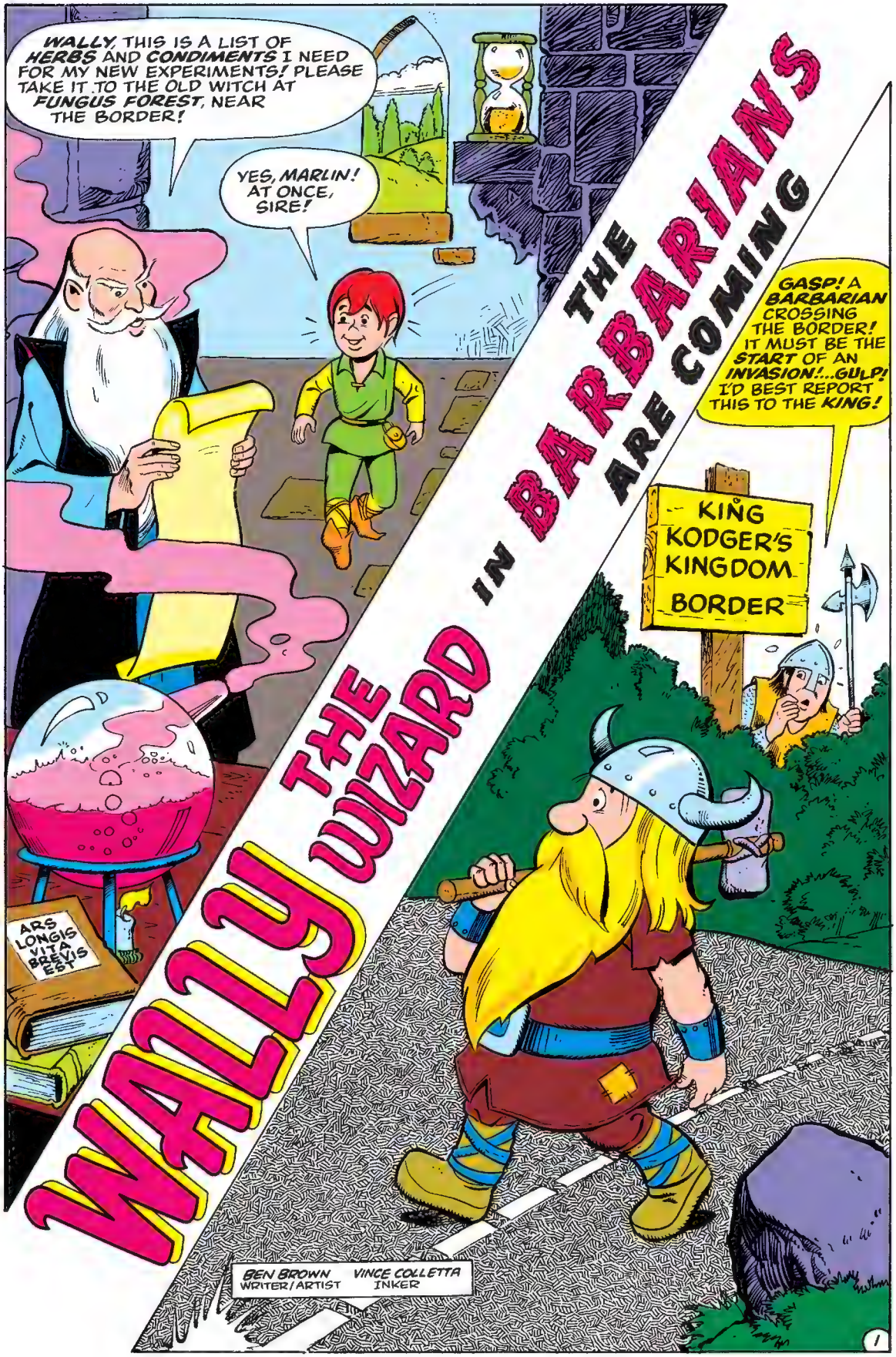

--AND THEN ALL I HAD TO DO TO DESTROY ANYTHING WAS TO POINT MY FINGER AT IT!
WATCH-! I'LL POINT TO THAT TREE!
REALLY, MY BOY--YAWN!
RUMBLE!
RUMBLE!

CRACK!

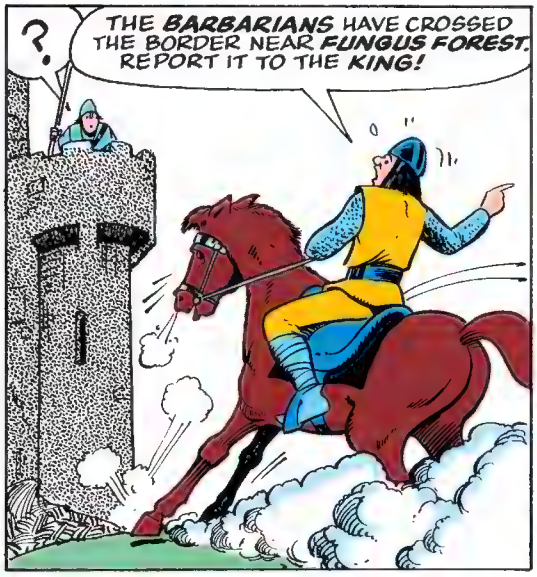

SEE!-WHAT DID I TELL YOU!?

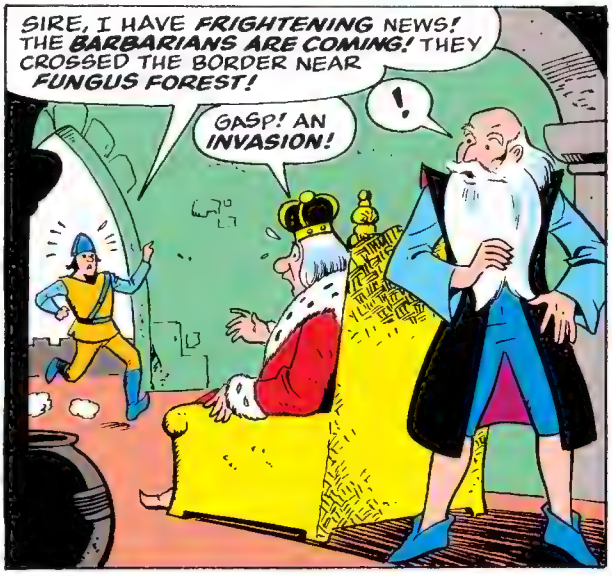
HMM-YES-MERELY AN AMUSING COINCIDENCE, WALLY!
!


OH-YES, SIRE! A COINCIDENCE!
I-I H-HOPE!
COME, MY BOY-LET US LEAVE-- IT'S STARTING TO RAIN!
RUMBLE!
END


WALLY, THIS IS A LIST OF HERBS AND CONDIMENTS I NEED FOR MY NEW EXPERIMENTS! PLEASE TAKE IT TO THE OLD WITCH AT FUNGUS FOREST, NEAR THE BORDER!
YES, MARLIN! AT ONCE, SIRE!
ARS LONGIS VITA BREVIS EST
WALLY THE WIZARD IN THE BARBARIANS ARE COMING
GASP! A BARBARIAN CROSSING THE BORDER! IT MUST BE THE START OF AN INVASION!...GULP! I'D BEST REPORT THIS TO THE KING!
KING KODGER'S KINGDOM BORDER
BEN BROWN WRITER/ARTIST
VINCE COLLETTA INKER
1

BLAZING DRAGONS! A WIZARD LIKE MARLIN SURE USES A LOT OF STRANGE SOUNDING THINGS! CHERVIL, MANDRAKE, CARDAMOM, AND GET THIS!...SPINACH!
GEE, THERE SURE IS A LOT FOR A SIMPLE APPRENTICE LIKE ME TO LEARN!

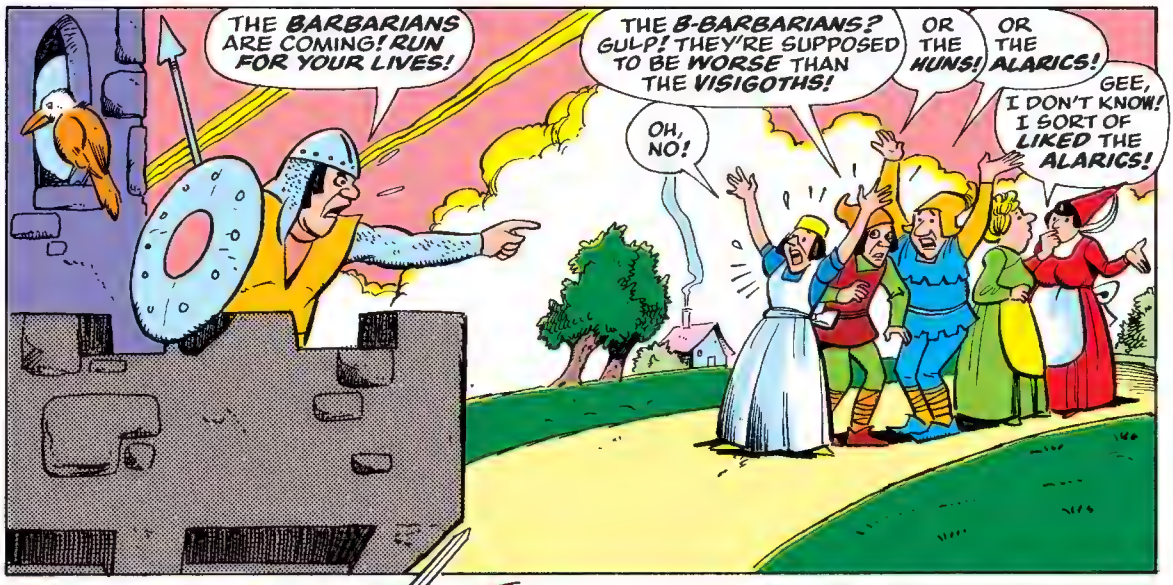

?
THE BARBARIANS HAVE CROSSED THE BORDER NEAR FUNGUS FOREST. REPORT IT TO THE KING!

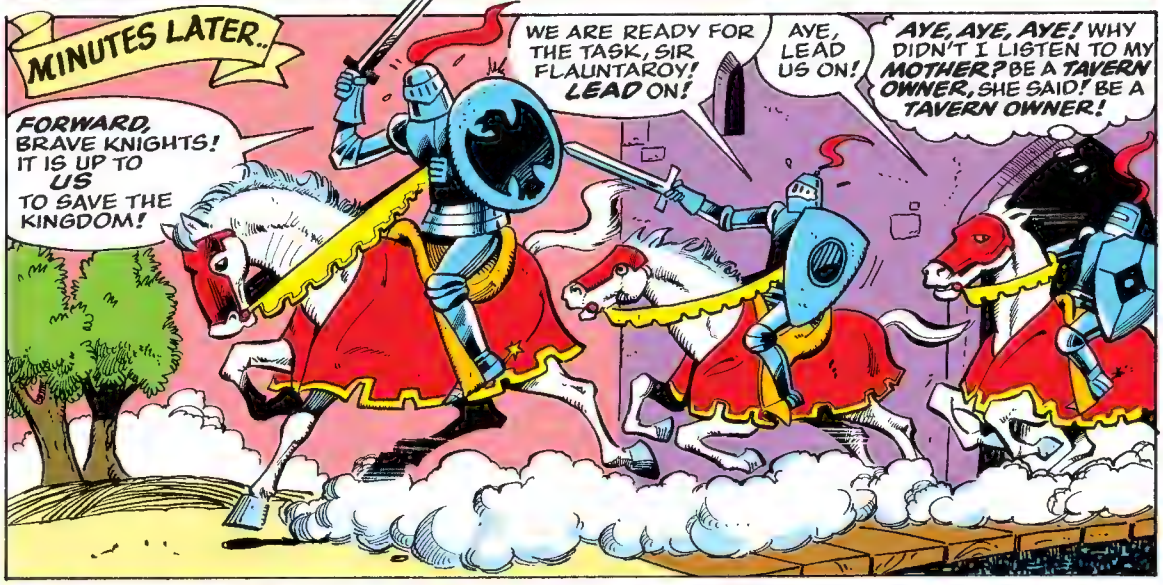

SIRE, I HAVE FRIGHTENING NEWS! THE BARBARIANS ARE COMING! THEY CROSSED THE BORDER NEAR FUNGUS FOREST!
GASP! AN INVASION!
!

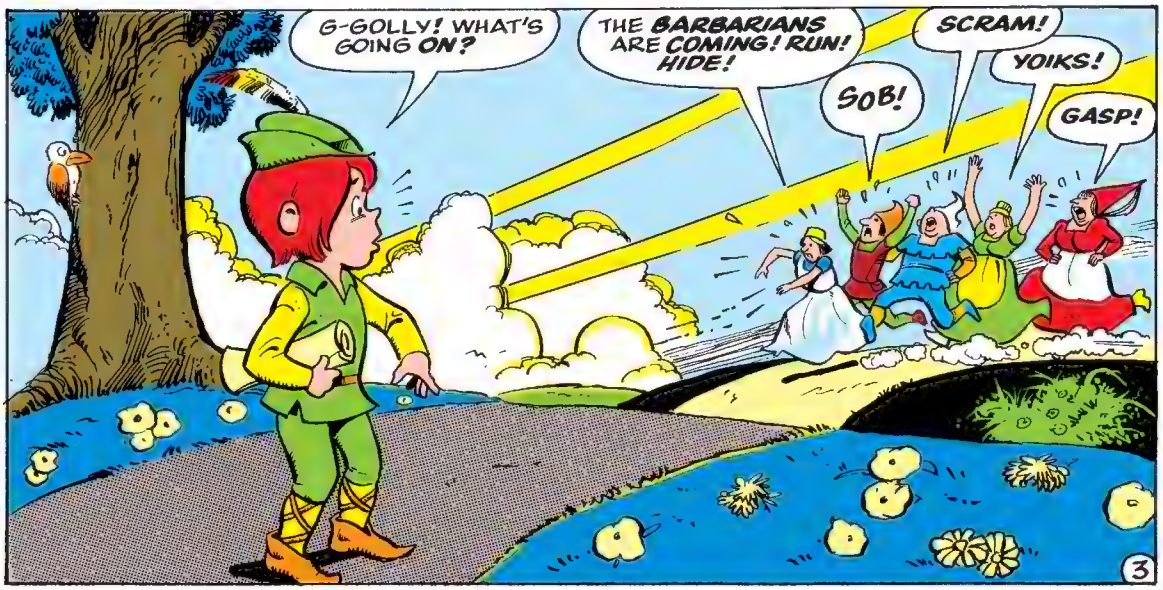
NEAR FUNGUS FOREST?! OH, DEAR! WALLY COULD BE IN DANGER!

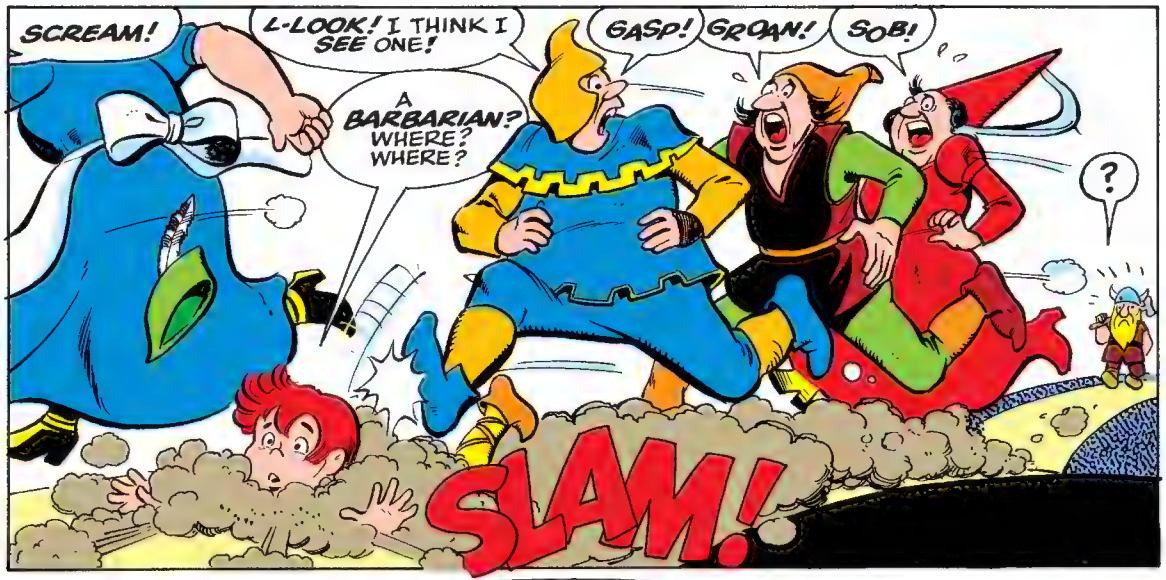
THE BARBARIANS ARE INVADING, PRINCESS PENELOPE!
AN INVASION NOW? WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO, ALAINA?

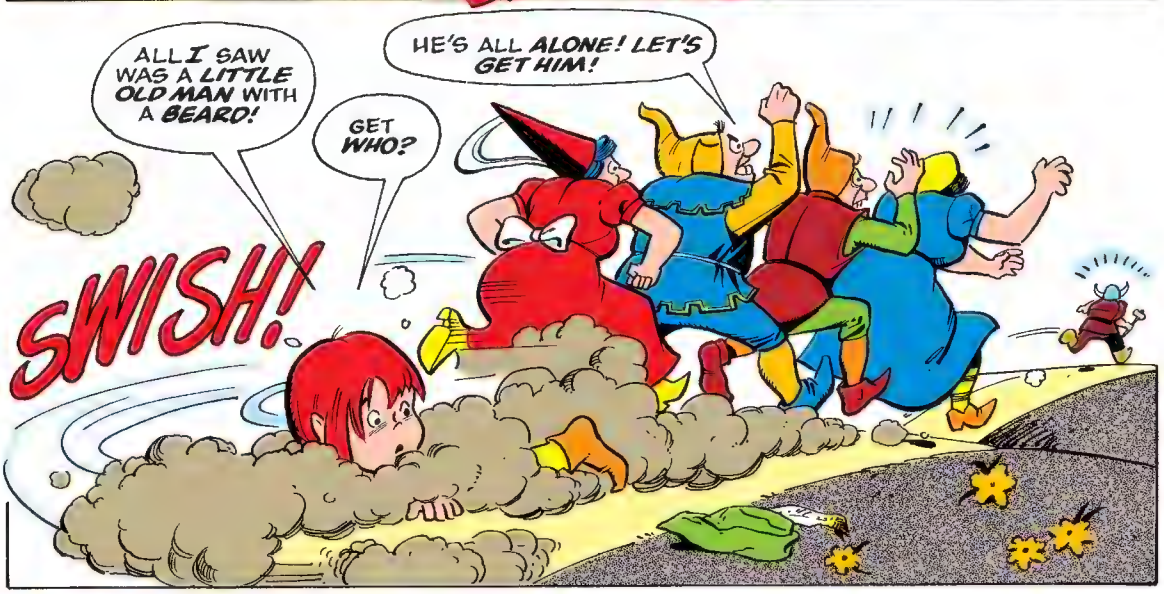
JUST LOOK AT ME! MY HAIR IS A MESS! I'M NOT DRESSED FOR AN INVASION!


THE BARBARIANS ARE COMING! RUN FOR YOUR LIVES!
THE B-BARBARIANS? GULP! THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO BE WORSE THAN THE VISIGOTHS!
OR THE HUNS!
OR THE ALARICS!
OH, NO!
GEE, I DON'T KNOW! I SORT OF LIKED THE ALARICS!


MINUTES LATER..
FORWARD, BRAVE KNIGHTS! IT IS UP TO US TO SAVE THE KINGDOM!
WE ARE READY FOR THE TASK, SIR FLAUNTAROY! LEAD ON!
AYE, LEAD US ON!
AYE, AYE, AYE! WHY DIDN'T I LISTEN TO MY MOTHER? BE A TAVERN OWNER, SHE SAID! BE A TAVERN OWNER!

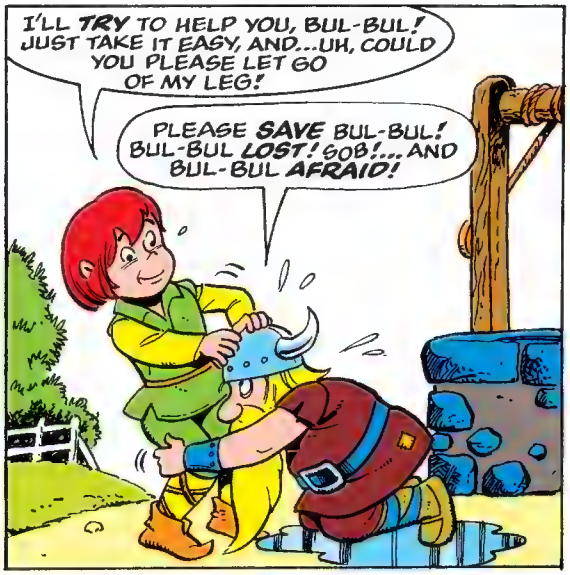

G-GOLLY! WHAT'S GOING ON?
THE BARBARIANS ARE COMING! RUN! HIDE!
SOB!
SCRAM!
YOIKS!
GASP!

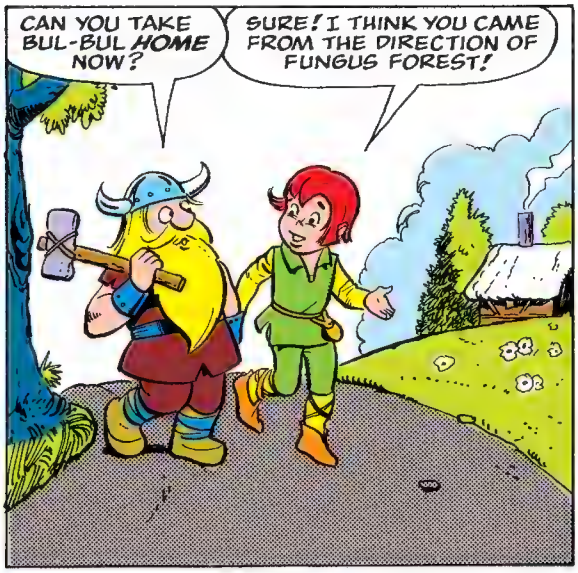

SCREAM!
L-LOOK! I THINK I SEE ONE!
A BARBARIAN? WHERE? WHERE?
GASP!
GROAN!
SOB!
?
SLAM!


ALL I SAW WAS A LITTLE OLD MAN WITH A BEARD!
GET WHO?
HE'S ALL ALONE! LET'S GET HIM!
SWISH!

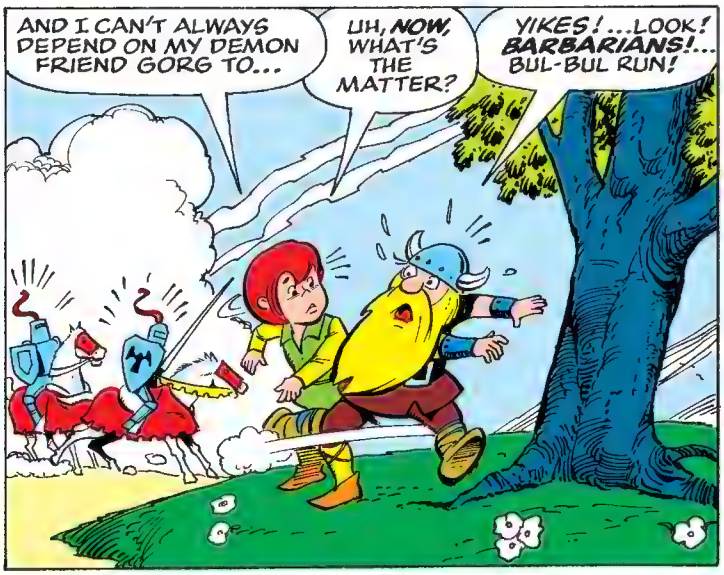
LATER
GOLLY! I WONDER WHERE THAT POOR LITTLE OLD MAN WENT? HE COULD BE IN DANGER!
I'M GOING TO GET A DRINK AND...

GASP! IT'S THE LITTLE OLD MAN! HOW DID YOU GET IN THERE, SIR?
SOB! ME BUL-BUL!...ME HIDE FROM BARBARIANS!

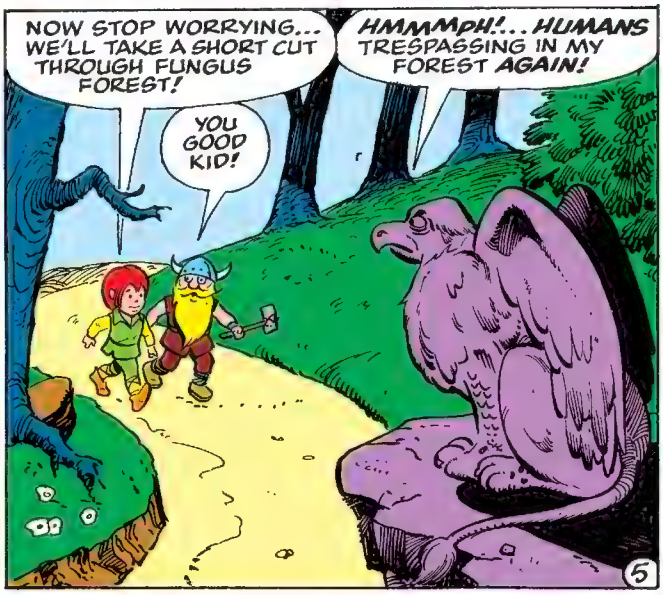

I'LL TRY TO HELP YOU, BUL-BUL! JUST TAKE IT EASY, AND...UH, COULD YOU PLEASE LET GO OF MY LEG!
PLEASE SAVE BUL-BUL! BUL-BUL LOST! SOB!... AND BUL-BUL AFRAID!

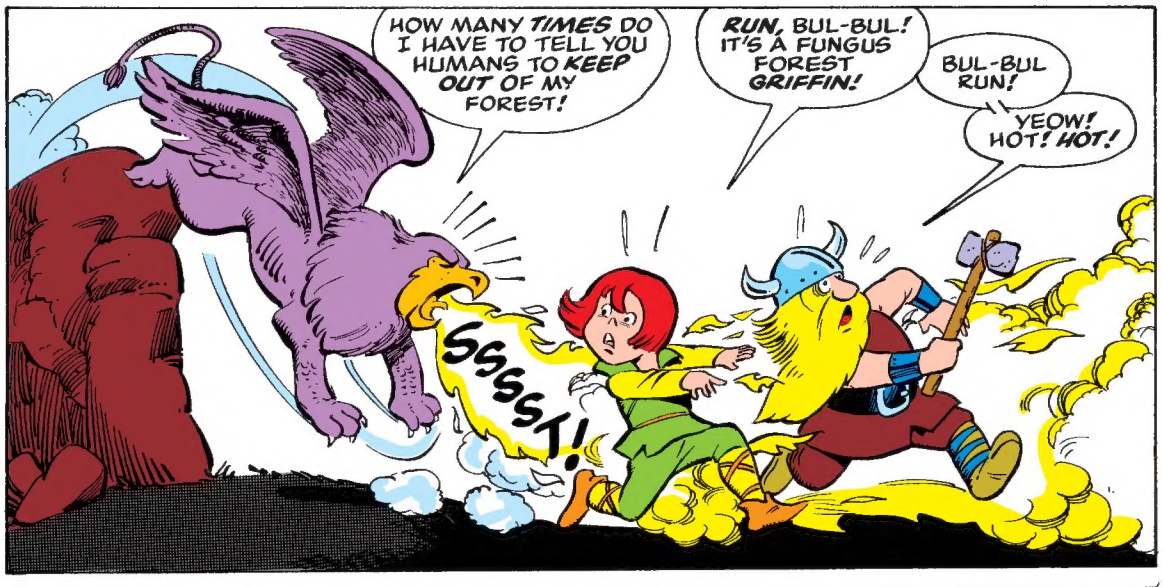

CAN YOU TAKE BUL-BUL HOME NOW?
SURE! I THINK YOU CAME FROM THE DIRECTION OF FUNGUS FOREST!

BUT WE'VE GOT TO BE CAREFUL BUL-BUL! THE FOREST IS FULL OF FRIGHTENING GRIFFINS!


AND I CAN'T ALWAYS DEPEND ON MY DEMON FRIEND GORG TO...
UH, NOW, WHAT'S THE MATTER?
YIKES!...LOOK! BARBARIANS!... BUL-BUL RUN!

COME ON DOWN!... THOSE WERE GOOD GUYS...THEY'RE KNIGHTS!
NIGHTS? WHAT NIGHTS? IS DAY NOW!

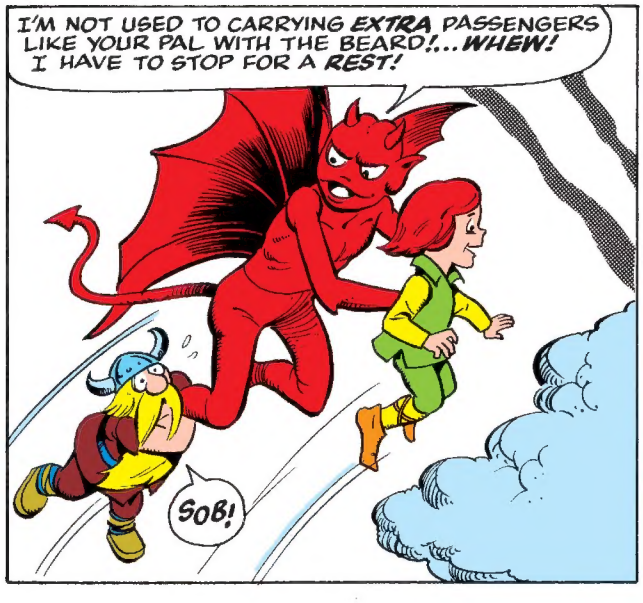

NOW STOP WORRYING... WE'LL TAKE A SHORT CUT THROUGH FUNGUS FOREST!
YOU GOOD KID!
HMMMPH!... HUMANS TRESPASSING IN MY FOREST AGAIN!

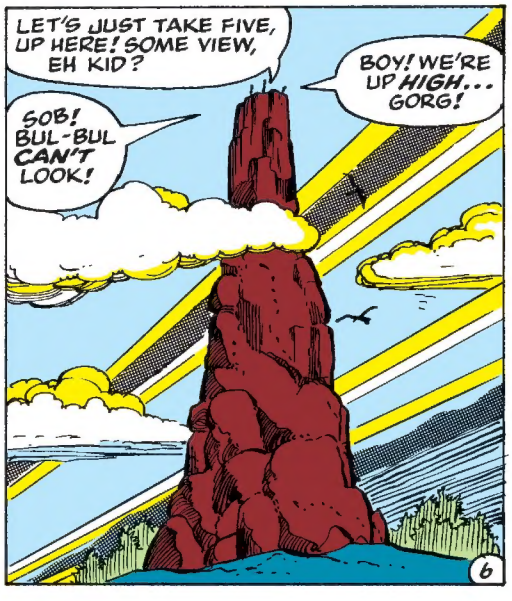

HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU HUMANS TO KEEP OUT OF MY FOREST!
RUN, BUL-BUL! IT'S A FUNGUS FOREST GRIFFIN!
BUL-BUL RUN!
YEOW! HOT! HOT!
SSSSS!

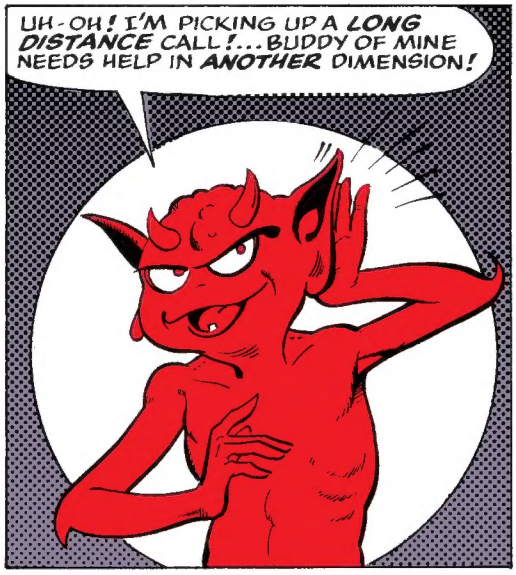
GASP!...HE'S GAINING ON US!
OVER HERE, WALLY, QUICK!
POP!

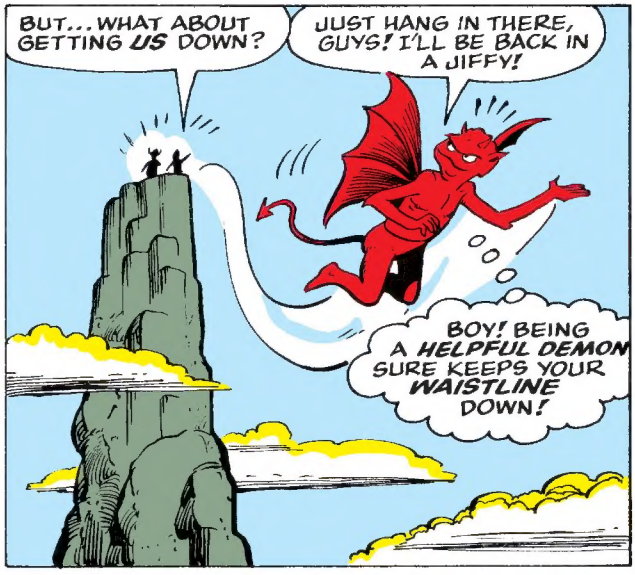
GIVE ME YOUR HAND, KID!
GORG! MY FAVORITE DEMON!

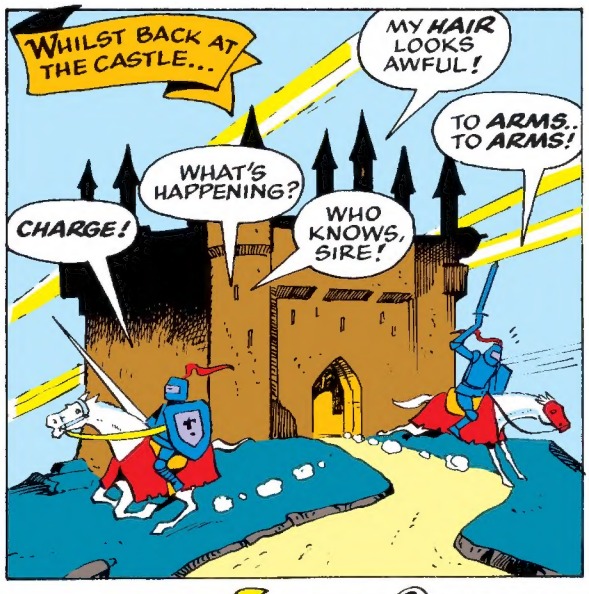
SINCE YOU FREED ME FROM MY CAPTIVITY IN A BOTTLE, I-HEH-HEH... HAVEN'T STOPPED PAYING YOU BACK!
SPOIL SPORT!
SWISH!


I'M NOT USED TO CARRYING EXTRA PASSENGERS LIKE YOUR PAL WITH THE BEARD!...WHEW! I HAVE TO STOP FOR A REST!
SOB!

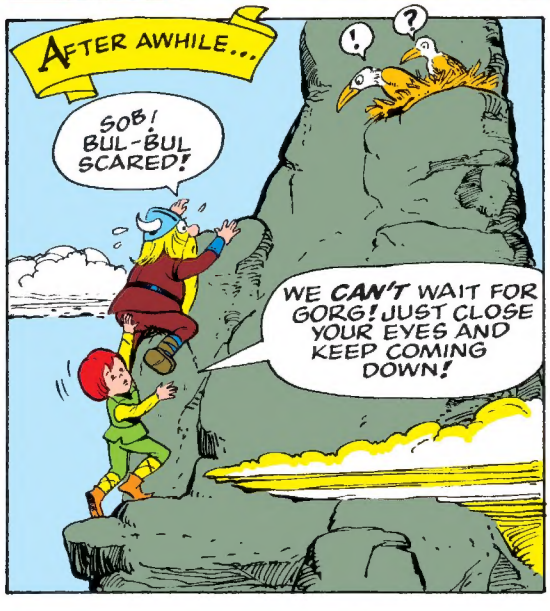

LET'S JUST TAKE FIVE, UP HERE! SOME VIEW, EH KID?
BOY! WE'RE UP HIGH... GORG!
SOB! BUL-BUL CAN'T LOOK!

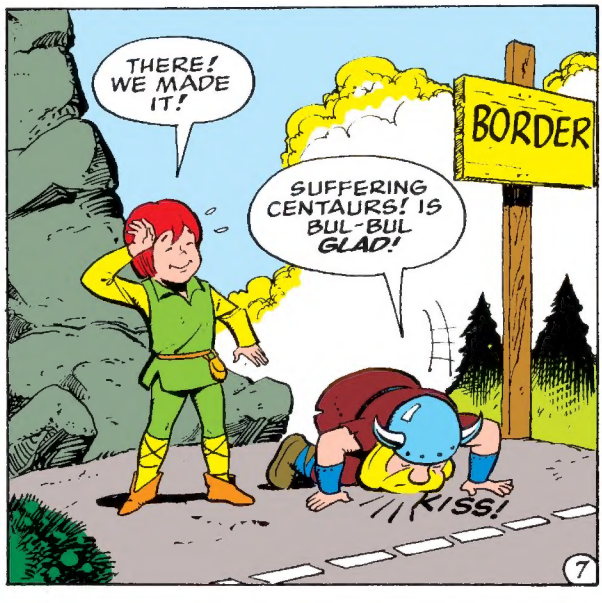

UH-OH! I'M PICKING UP A LONG DISTANCE CALL!... BUDDY OF MINE NEEDS HELP IN ANOTHER DIMENSION!

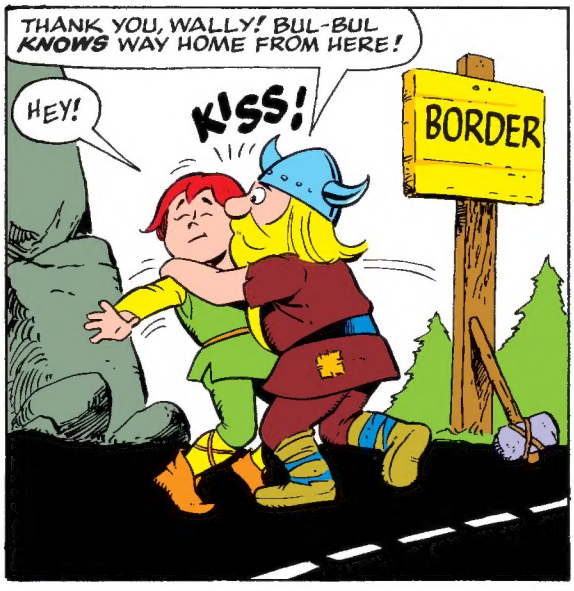

BUT... WHAT ABOUT GETTING US DOWN?
JUST HANG IN THERE, GUYS! I'LL BE BACK IN A JIFFY!
BOY! BEING A HELPFUL DEMON SURE KEEPS YOUR WAISTLINE DOWN!

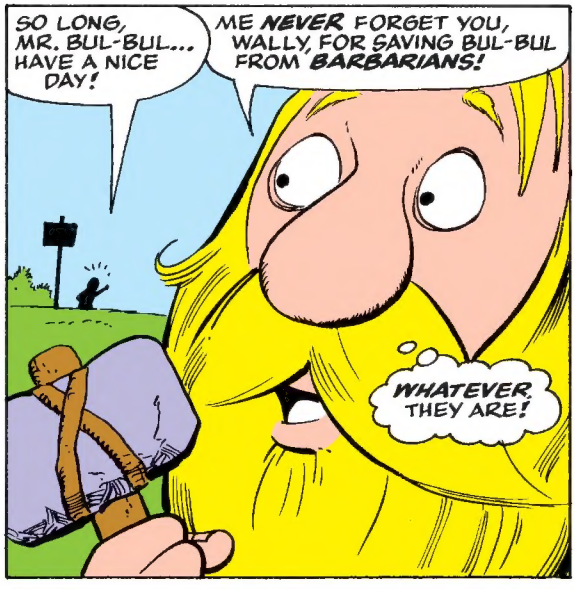

WHILST BACK AT THE CASTLE...
MY HAIR LOOKS AWFUL!
TO ARMS.. TO ARMS!
WHAT'S HAPPENING?
CHARGE!
WHO KNOWS, SIRE!

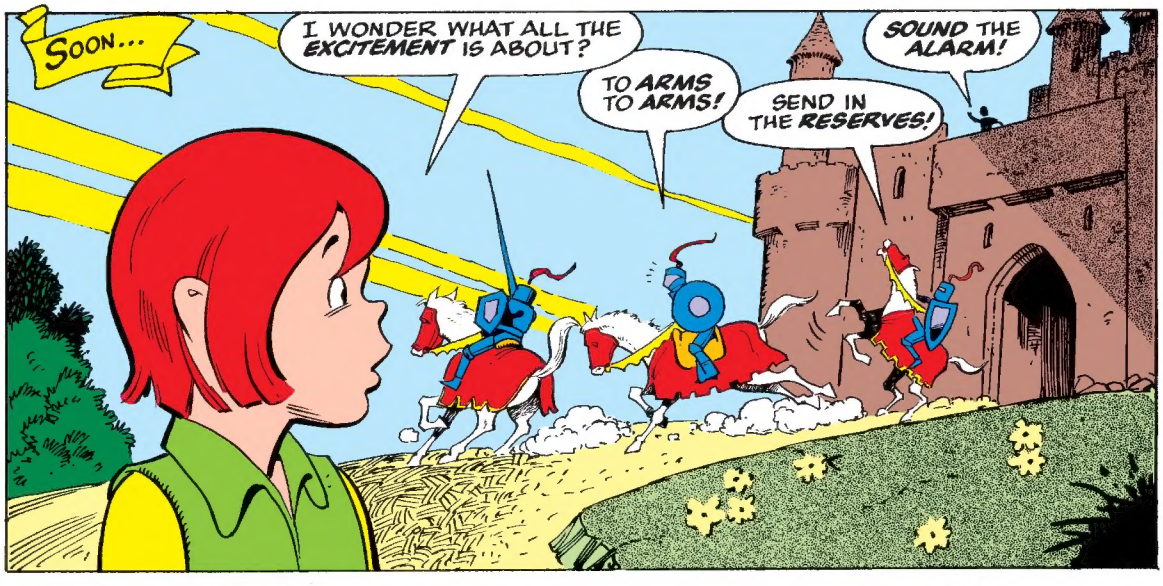
WHERE'S WALLY? I'LL NEVER FORGIVE MYSELF IF THE LAD IS HURT!

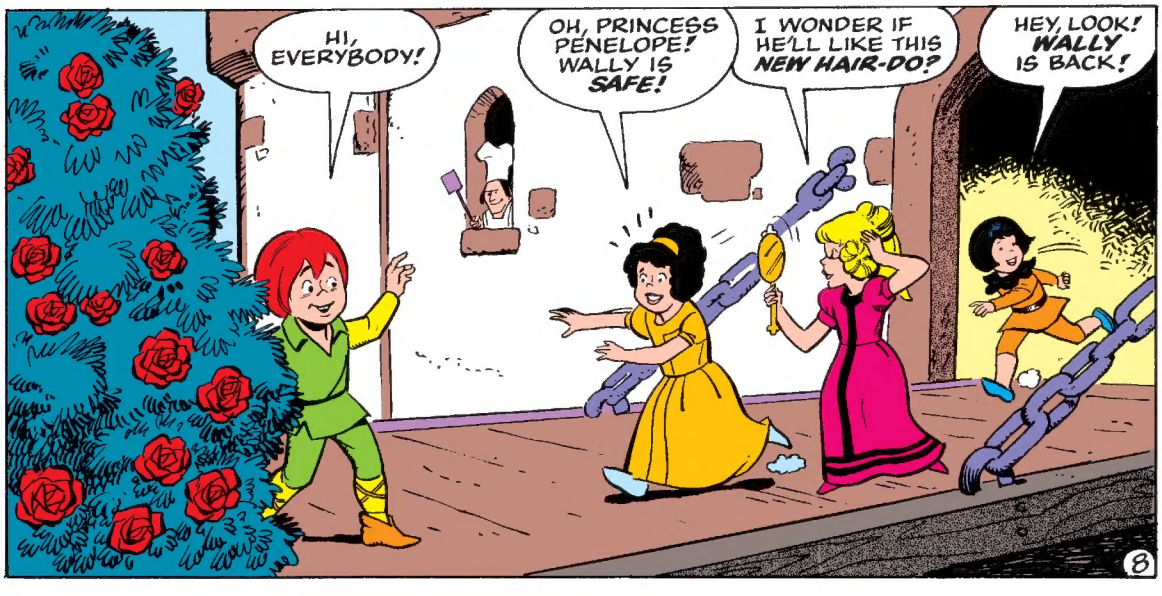

AFTER AWHILE...
SOB! BUL-BUL SCARED!
!
?
WE CAN'T WAIT FOR GORG! JUST CLOSE YOUR EYES AND KEEP COMING DOWN!

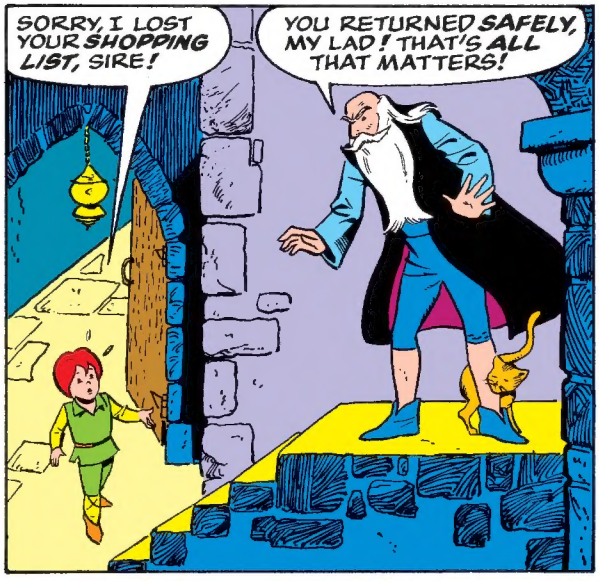

THERE! WE MADE IT!
BORDER
SUFFERING CENTAURS! IS BUL-BUL GLAD!
KISS!

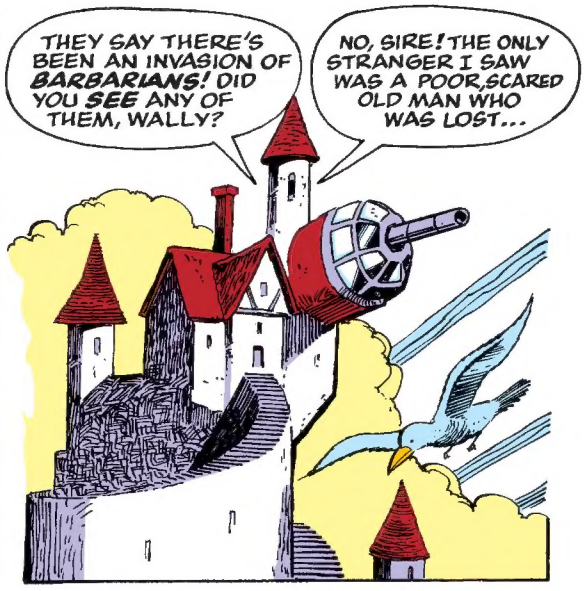

THANK YOU, WALLY! BUL-BUL KNOWS WAY HOME FROM HERE!
HEY!
KISS!
BORDER

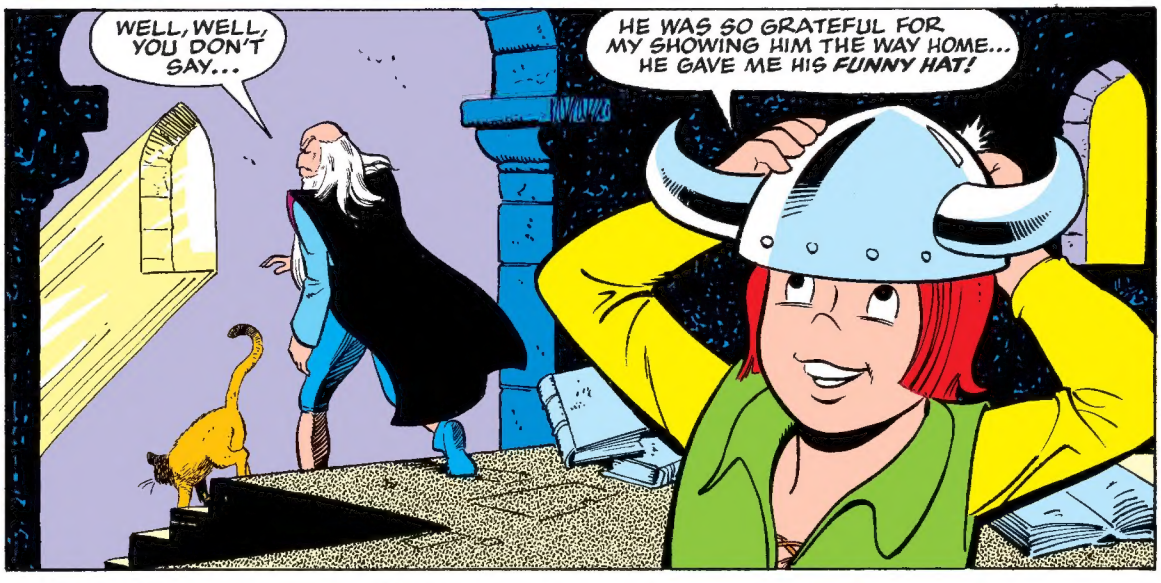

SO LONG, MR. BUL-BUL... HAVE A NICE DAY!
ME NEVER FORGET YOU, WALLY, FOR SAVING BUL-BUL FROM BARBARIANS!
WHATEVER THEY ARE!

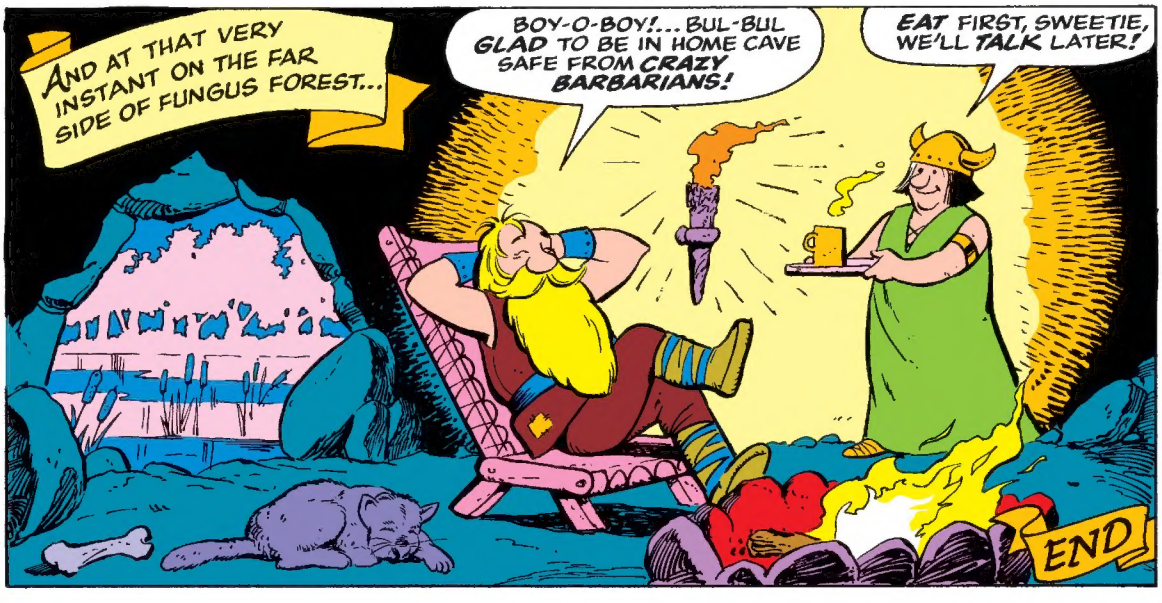

SOON...
I WONDER WHAT ALL THE EXCITEMENT IS ABOUT?
TO ARMS TO ARMS!
SEND IN THE RESERVES!
SOUND THE ALARM!


HI, EVERYBODY!
OH, PRINCESS PENELOPE! WALLY IS SAFE!
I WONDER IF HE'LL LIKE THIS NEW HAIR-DO?
HEY, LOOK! WALLY IS BACK!


SORRY, I LOST YOUR SHOPPING LIST, SIRE!
YOU RETURNED SAFELY, MY LAD! THAT'S ALL THAT MATTERS!


THEY SAY THERE'S BEEN AN INVASION OF BARBARIANS! DID YOU SEE ANY OF THEM, WALLY?
NO, SIRE! THE ONLY STRANGER I SAW WAS A POOR, SCARED OLD MAN WHO WAS LOST...


WELL, WELL, YOU DON'T SAY...
HE WAS SO GRATEFUL FOR MY SHOWING HIM THE WAY HOME... HE GAVE ME HIS FUNNY HAT!


AND AT THAT VERY INSTANT ON THE FAR SIDE OF FUNGUS FOREST...
BOY-O-BOY!... BUL-BUL GLAD TO BE IN HOME CAVE SAFE FROM CRAZY BARBARIANS!
EAT FIRST, SWEETIE, WE'LL TALK LATER!
END